SOMALIS IN MINNESOTA PERPETRATED "INDUSTRIAL-SCALE" FRAUD

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Minneapolis Mayhem

Prelude to Civil War?

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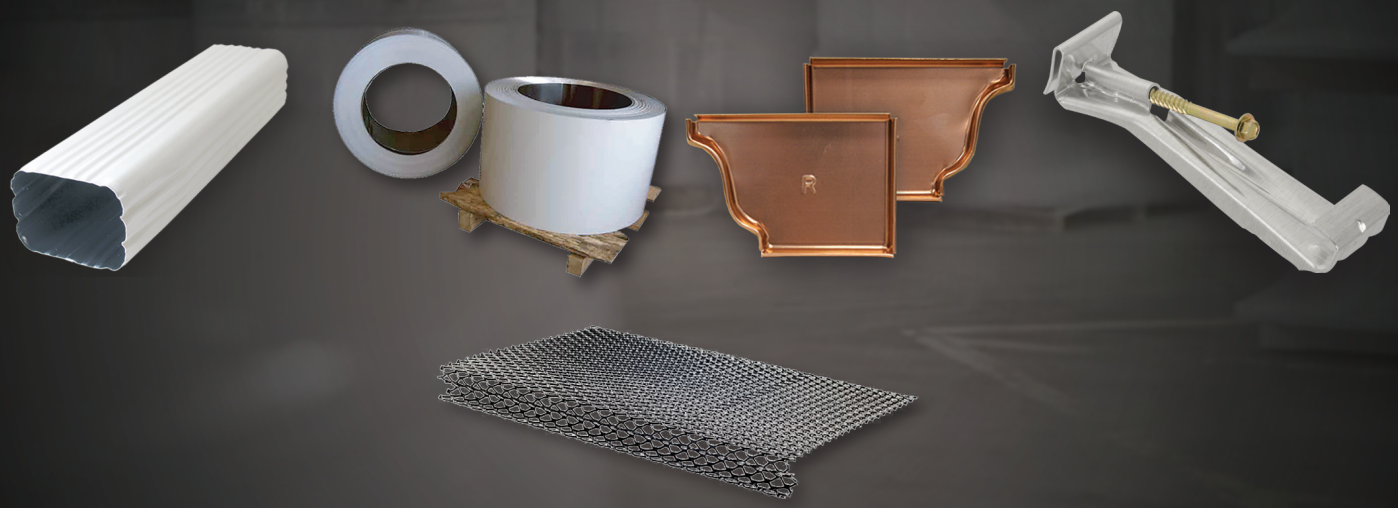

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From the Editor

The Real "Story Behind the Story"

Those words appear in the first part of "Minneapolis Mayhem: Prelude to Civil War?" our main cover-story article by William F. Jasper (page 6). The article delivers. So do the other related articles in this issue.

We are all familiar with the story as portrayed through the lens of the liberal media: A great American city and its environs were besieged by legions of ICE agents who created chaos in a state known for its friendliness. In their zeal to enforce immigration laws, ICE tore families apart, arrested American citizens, instilled fear in the community, trampled upon the right to protest, and even killed (as of this writing) two of the protesters.

On the other hand, many conservatives view the story differently. ICE agents need to be able to carry out their sworn duties, but their ability to do so has been impeded by "protesters" who have gone beyond peaceful protesting to interfering with ICE operations, thereby creating a tense and dangerous situation for themselves, the ICE agents, and even the criminal aliens the agents are targeting for arrest. Under the guise of peaceful protest, agitators have threatened, stalked, and hurt ICE agents; put up barricades in the streets; and invaded a church service.

Of course, there is much more to the story, beginning with the simple fact that the country has been flooded with illegal immigrants, including many criminal illegal aliens, because of past de facto open-border policies. If the border crisis had not gotten so far out of control, ICE would have a much smaller footprint in the interior of the country, including Minneapolis. And the footprint would be smaller still if local police were not hamstrung by their political leaders from providing law enforcement.

Then there's the massive number of *legal* immigrants who have recently come to America, but who are not assimilating nearly to the extent that the great immigration waves of many generations ago did. This is particularly the case for the many new arrivals who have come from cultures alien to the Western tradition, such as the large Somali community in Minneapolis. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that what was once a policy of assimilation has effectively become a policy of reverse assimilation — and woe to anyone who says this reversal is a bad thing, since he will be besmirched as a racist. This is an important part of the story too, since the Balkanization of America is contributing to growing civil unrest in Minneapolis and elsewhere.

But there's much more to the story still. In "Minneapolis Mayhem: Prelude to Civil War?" Jasper focuses on the top-down stratagem that's being employed to create the turmoil that, the deceivers hope, will ultimately lead to the consolidation of communist/socialist power in what was once the greatest experiment in liberty the world has ever seen. "What we are witnessing in Minnesota is not an organic, grassroots uprising of local Americans," Jasper warns. "We are seeing instead the communists of the Beijing regime and the globalists of the Davos regime collaborating with and funding professional agitators to create the chaos they intend to use to usher in their New World Order." This same basic theme is amplified by a second article by Jasper, "Soros' Minnesota Handprints: Subversive Prosecutors & Street Thugs" (page 13).

Jasper tells the real story behind the story, as does Rebecca Terrell in her sidebar "The Weaponization of Children in Minnesota" (page 10) and R. Cort Kirkwood in his article "Somalis in Minnesota Perpetrated 'Industrial-scale' Fraud" (page 16). In the latter, Kirkwood warns that the fraud is far worse than simply squandering taxpayer dollars; millions of the "wasted" dollars have been transferred to the Islamic terrorist group Al-Shabaab.

Wild conspiracy theories? No, conspiracy facts. We invite you to read these well-researched articles and judge for yourself. After doing so, please read other articles in this issue that probe behind the headlines, including Selwyn Duke's article about avowed democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani, who was elected mayor of America's largest city and financial center by a deplorably uninformed and beguiled electorate (page 31).

The revolution is well underway, but the good news is that it can still be stopped via the light of exposure. ■

Gary Benoit
Editor-in-Chief

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AP Photo / Yuki Iwamura

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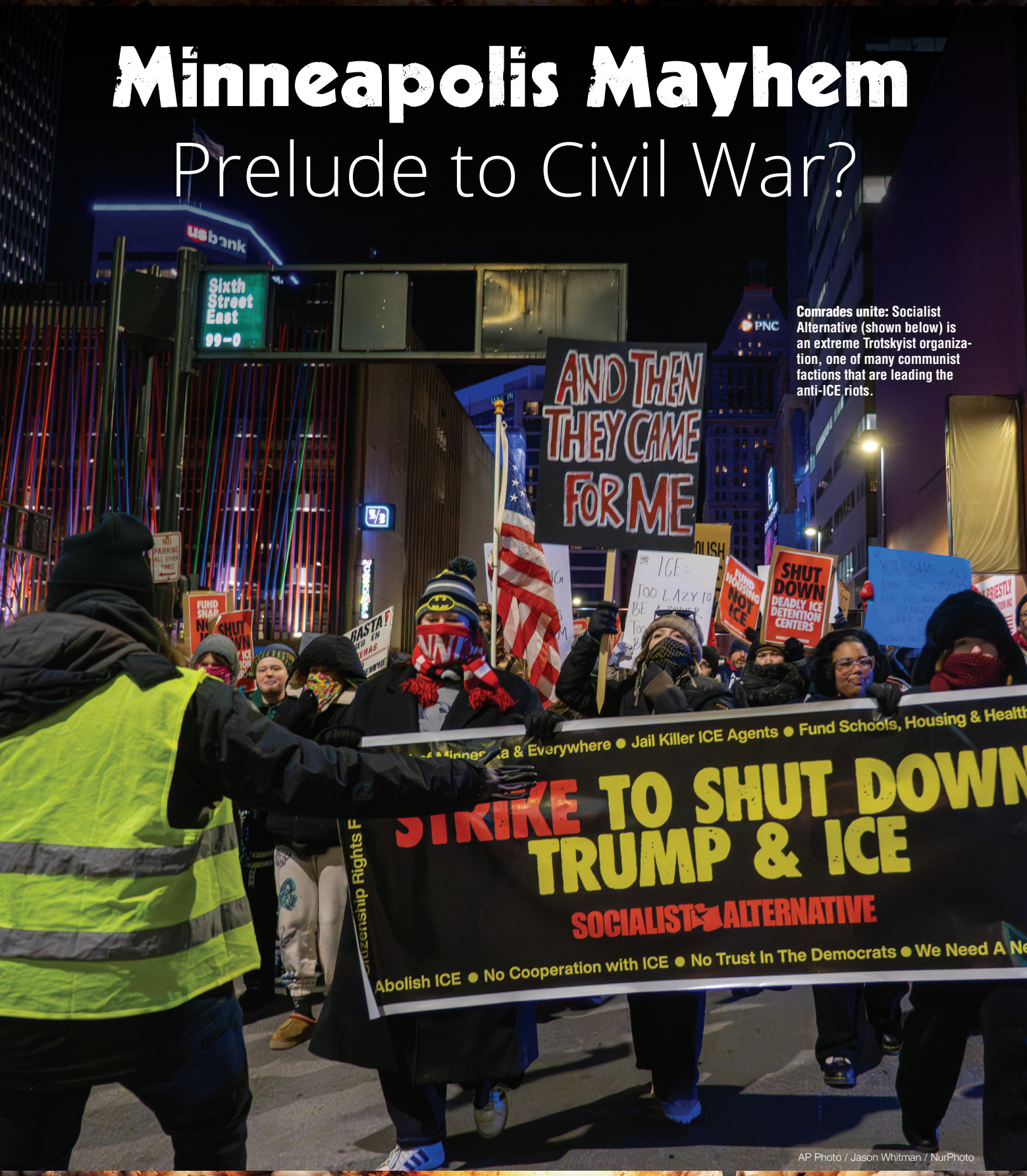
AND THEN THEY CAME FOR ME
SHUT DOWN DEADLY ICE DETENTION CENTERS
Jail Killer ICE Agents
Fund Schools, Housing & Healthcare
TO SHUT DOWN TRUMP & ICE
SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE
Abolish ICE
No Cooperation with ICE
No Trust In The Democrats
We Need A New Party
Not One More Deportation

AP Photo / Jason Whitman / NurPhoto

Minneapolis Mayhem
Prelude to Civil War?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AND THEN THEY CAME FOR ME
ICE = TOO LAZY TO BE A SNIPER
FUND HOUSING NOT ICE
SHUT DOWN DEADLY ICE DETENTION CENTERS
& Everywhere ● Jail Killer ICE Agents ● Fund Schools, Housing & Health
TO SHUT DOWN TRUMP & ICE
SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE
Abolish ICE ● No Cooperation with ICE ● No Trust In The Democrats ● We Need A

Comrades unite: Socialist Alternative (shown below) is an extreme Trotskyist organization, one of many communist factions that are leading the anti-ICE riots.

AP Photo / Jason Whitman / NurPhoto

AT A GLANCE

- Minneapolis is being set up as ground zero for a new American civil war.
- Hundreds of NGOs, financed by left-wing billionaire "philanthropists," are coordinating the violent resistance to ICE in Minneapolis.
- The Chinese Communist Party has infiltrated Minnesota's government, thanks to Governor Tim Walz's decades-long relationship with China.
- A major figure bankrolling the Minnesota agitators is Neville Roy Singham, an American tech mogul who lives in Shanghai and is a CCP supporter.

Immigration enforcement in Maple Grove, Minnesota

AP Photo/Adam Gray

by William F. Jasper

"No one thought the Revolution would start in Minneapolis." That was a popular social-media meme launched in May 2020. It was a reference, of course, to the George Floyd-BLM-Antifa protests that started in Minneapolis and then spread to hundreds of cities in the United States and worldwide. Many of these "mostly peaceful" protests, you may recall, turned into deadly, incendiary, full-fledged riots. At least 19 people were killed in those events here in the United States, and estimates of damages range from $1 billion to $2 billion. But those were only the *insured* losses. They don't include hundreds of millions of dollars in losses to uninsured and underinsured properties, most of which were minority-owned businesses in struggling, marginal areas. Beyond the horrendous financial destruction they caused, the "racial justice" warriors managed in one fell swoop to destroy more of the hopes, dreams, life savings, hard work, progress, and prosperity of minority entrepreneurs than could have been done by a rampaging horde of Ku Klux Klansmen in a hundred years.

Now, the meme is back. And many on the Left are once again *celebrating* the mayhem in Minnesota — and hoping that, as it did six years ago, "the Revolution" will spread nationwide. They have a new protest anthem in Bruce Springsteen's chart-topping "Streets of Minneapolis." Celebrities, pundits, podcasters, judges, and politicians (mostly Democrats) are racing to virtue signal on the "ICE Out!" bandwagon. The dials are already set for escalation across the country. The would-be revolutionists appear to be confident they will be able to get mass chaos scaled up even before the long, hot days of summer, the traditional period for rioting. This has the makings of an all-out push for a full-fledged civil war, something no sane person with any sort of moral compass would in any way support, let alone promote.

So, who is goading us to the precipice of civil war, and why? The answer to those questions is the real "story behind the story." In the limited space we have here, we will not be analyzing the deaths of Renee Good and Alex Pretti or assigning blame to the individuals involved in those events. Rather, we will be taking a much wider view, examining the persons, organizations, and institutions that are most crucially responsible for the deadly havoc in Minneapolis, havoc that may soon be coming to your city.

In case you were not already aware, behind Minnesota Governor Tim Walz,

William F. Jasper is a senior editor of The New American *and president of The John Birch Society.*

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, and the screaming street mobs is a menagerie of far-left members of the Communist Party, the Democratic Socialists of America, CODEPINK, Black Lives Matter, The People's Forum, the ACLU, the ANSWER Coalition, the Freedom Road Socialist Organization, the Institute for Policy Studies, and a plethora of additional organizations of similar ilk. But far more important than these miscreants is an alarming array of billionaire "philanthropists" with names such as Zuckerberg, Powell-Jobs, Soros, Gates, Singham, Hoffman, Rockefeller, Goldman Sachs, and Ford who are financing the *hundreds* of open-border NGOs that are mobilizing the anti-ICE militants. On top of that, we can't leave out a central player, the CCP. Yes, the Chinese Communist Party. Have *The New York Times*, CNN, PBS, The Associated Press, or any of the other members of the media lie machine connected these dots for you? Sure, just like they told you the truth about Hunter Biden's laptop, former President Joe Biden's "sharp-as-a-tack" mental prowess, President Donald Trump's "Russian collusion," Jussie Smollett's "assault," and a thousand other lies, coverups, and disinformation operations.

However, before we get to those critical particulars, first the "context." As the "liberal" media talking heads are forever lecturing us about (while misdirecting us with *faux* context), we must put things in context. We agree, so let's *contextualize*.

"Good" Surge, "Bad" Surge

The current turmoil in the North Star State is widely attributed to the "inhumane" and "brutal" tactics of Operation Metro Surge, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) campaign that deployed (eventually) 3,000 agents from ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and CBP (Customs and Border Protection) to Minnesota. Granted, that's a lot of agents, and even many conservatives get (rightfully) nervous when swarms of masked federal officers descend on a local community. But to contextualize, perhaps we should recall the Biden "Border Surge" that preceded, and arguably *necessitated* the Trump "Metro Surge." Recall that during the televised September 12, 2019 presidential debate, candidate Joe Biden said: "What I would do as president is several more things, because things have changed. I would, in fact, make sure that there is — we immediately surge to the border. All those people who are seeking asylum, they deserve to be heard. That's who we are."

AP Photo / Jen G[illegible]eck

Yes, we know; our media betters chide us that the quote is taken out of context. Well, here's the context: Biden's answer was in response to a question by moderator Jorge Ramos, the open-borders anchor for Univision, the largest Spanish-language television network in the United States. He was speaking to Univision's audience throughout the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and beyond. They heard — and they surged. By the *millions*! As president, Biden immediately ended Trump's sensible policy that asylum seekers "Remain in Mexico" until their asylum cases were adjudicated, a successful policy that had put a halt to the massive caravan tsunami.

Moreover, Biden's DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas made sure the border was wide open to the surge, causing Border Patrol Chief Mike Banks to state that his agents were being "neutered" and "handcuffed." More context: Mayorkas wasn't satisfied. Remember his secretive "parole flights," mostly in the dead of night? How many people was he flying in, who were they, and where did they go? He refused to say. On April 30, 2024, the House Committee on Homeland Security released a report revealing documents obtained through a subpoena of Mayorkas' DHS that identified more than 50 airport locations across the United States used by DHS to help bring in more than 400,000 inadmissible aliens from more than 70 countries.

But, was there any media outcry over the unlawful Biden-Mayorkas surge that brought *untold millions* of illegal migrants across the border and *flew hundreds of thousands* of additional illegals to our interior states, cities, and towns?

More surge context: Large ICE/CBP contingents would not be necessary and

public confrontations would not occur if "sanctuary" states, counties, and cities cooperated with rather than obstructed the legitimate enforcement of our immigration laws. This is proven by the fact that hundreds of jurisdictions cooperate with ICE and honor their detainers every day — without incident. A detainer is simply a request — not an order — by a federal police agency to a state, county, or municipal police agency to "hold" an individual who is about to be released from custody so that federal officers can assume custody in a safe and efficient manner, rather than risking public (and officer) safety and requiring additional manpower to track down and apprehend the individual in the community. ICE detainers are not unique in this respect; detainers are also commonly used by the FBI, Marshals Service, and Drug Enforcement Administration. Immigration detainers have been used for decades, and have only been challenged by the radical open-borders cabal in recent years.

Ed Varso, executive director of the Law Enforcement Charitable Foundation (LECF), is a former police chief for Escondido, California, a city of around 151,000 people located 40 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

"For many years Escondido had regular, ongoing relations with ICE," he told *The New American*. "ICE officers worked alongside our officers with no problems. Like thousands of other police organizations, we gladly cooperated with ICE in their important enforcement of our immigration laws. But, a few years ago California politicians took us down the radical sanctuary path and that cooperative relationship ended, with tragic results for everyone, as is now plainly evident."

Tim Walz

AP Photo / Jeff Wheeler

However, Minneapolis and other sanctuary jurisdictions have gone far beyond mere non-cooperation As in Portland, Oregon, and other bastions of radicalism, Minneapolis politicians have ordered police agencies to allow violent mobs to run wild, to surround and attack ICE officers, to dox and threaten them and their families, and to refuse to assist them when they make calls for help.

Incidents of ICE officers under sustained violent attack while the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) refuses to respond are "absolutely incredible" and "unconscionable," said former chief Varso, who was a law-enforcement officer for 27 years.

"When one takes the oath of office as a law enforcement officer," he continued, "one assumes an absolute obligation to intervene to stop criminal activity. To 'protect and serve' is not just a slogan, it's a sacred duty that is not open to political considerations. ICE officers are human beings and fellow citizens and deserving of the same protections against mob rule as every other American. It's unconscionable for public officials to encourage criminal chaos and deny protection based on a political agenda. I am sure many, if not most,

What we have in Minnesota is a case of infiltration, deep penetration, and widespread permeation, top-to-bottom, of virtually all important governmental institutions.

rank-and-file police officers are incredibly frustrated and angered by these unethical mandates from the political classes."

Those same political classes, however, receive prompt MPD protection that they deny to those not favored, as we saw when Representative Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) was assaulted with water or other liquid at a town hall meeting. The perpetrator was immediately arrested by the MPD, as he should have been. But then, Ilhan Omar is *royalty* and "deserving" of protection.

Cabal Behind the Chaos

So, what has happened in Minneapolis that has turned this city, and Minnesota, into the epicenter of revolutionary activity? Here is where we get into unmasking the cabal behind the chaos. And this is where those who oppose the unmasking try to divert attention by hysterically crying "conspiracy theory." But the truth will out.

What we have in Minnesota is a case of infiltration, deep penetration, and widespread permeation, top-to-bottom, of virtually all important governmental institutions, from Governor Walz to Mayor

The Weaponization of Children in Minnesota

On January 23, Minnesota became ground zero for one of the most unusual protest movements in recent U.S. history: a statewide "economic blackout" aimed at pressuring U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to end what organizers describe as abusive actions. Major media relate that tens of thousands of residents — workers, students, teachers, business owners, and religious leaders — stayed home from work, school, and shopping to express solidarity with illegal immigrants in Minneapolis-Saint Paul. Local businesses reputedly also closed their doors as part of "ICE Out of Minnesota — Day of Truth and Freedom."

They took aim at Operation Metro Surge, a campaign of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security involving the deployment of thousands of ICE and other federal agents across the state to detain illegal aliens harboring in the "sanctuary jurisdiction."

Minnesota's youth have figured prominently in public demonstrations, walkouts, and school closures. Delicately disposed students at the University of Minnesota said they felt "angry" and unable to focus on classes because of heightened tensions, according to Reuters. Social-media posts show the brainwashing of tomorrow's college kids happening before our eyes: blue-haired teachers leading children as young as five in protests blocking traffic in the streets so they can "make their voices heard."

Though elementary and secondary schools did not formally close for the January 23 event, the buzz on social media maintained that many students nevertheless stayed home for safety reasons due to fear of federal enforcement action nearby. Many public school districts offered convenient online options during the strike, also citing safety concerns, which apparently did not extend to the steps of the Minnesota State Capitol, where students (bearing professionally produced signs and banners) rallied against ICE to the goading of career agitators such as Minnesota Democratic Attorney General Keith Ellison.

"I sued the Department of Homeland Security two days ago," he told the cheering teens, "because they are breaking the law."

"Anytime Keith Ellison sues the Trump administration, just know that Norm Eisen and Democracy Inc. are behind it as part of their 10 years long color revolution against Trump, MAGA and populism," noted social-media influencer The Researcher on X. *The New American* has been warning of that influential alliance for years, as it has of the other "ICE Out of Minnesota" promoters who are using the hackneyed leftist tactic of weaponizing children to achieve their nefarious ends.

Foremost on that list is the National Education Association (NEA), the largest teachers union in the United States and the only labor union that maintains a federal charter. Congressional conservatives have been trying for years to rectify that injustice, with Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) introducing the latest version of the NEA Charter Repeal Act (S. 2310) last year. Her U.S. House colleague, Representative Bob Good (R-Va.), wrote in his version of the bill that the NEA has "become a massive political operation dedicated to electing Democrats and imposing a radical progressive agenda on America's schools." The organization is outspoken in its support of abortion, illegal immigration, transgenderism, and critical race theory. In 2021, "NEA Board Member Mollie Page Mumau wrote on Facebook that shooting people 'hiding behind religious exemptions' to vaccine mandates 'would be quicker and ultimately safer than putting me and my friends and family at risk,'" continued Good.

Some 97 percent of the NEA's political action committee funding goes to support leftist political campaigns and organizations, according to Influence Watch, and NEA President Becky Pringle is known for her unhinged rants at public events. "Diversity! Equity! And inclusion! Say the words! *Say them*!" she shrieked during an assembly last summer. At another event, in response to those working to repeal the NEA charter, she screamed, "Our students! Our babies are depending on us!"

"They're not your kids, Becky. They are the parents' children," admonished Corey DeAngelis, senior fellow of the American Culture Project, on Stossel TV last year.

Frey, from Attorney General Keith Ellison to District Attorney Mary Moriarty, from Senator Amy Klobuchar to Representative Ilhan Omar to numerous state legislators and state and county officials and employees. Then there are the universities, colleges, and public schools and the teachers unions (see sidebar below). OK, so who's doing this claimed infiltration, penetration, and permeation, and why is it concerning?

This is beyond merely "concerning," because the forces at work here below the surface are far more sinister than most people realize. As mentioned above, one of those forces is the Chinese Communist Party, which is deeply embedded in Tim Walz's Minnesota. The Democratic National Committee, the Harris-Walz ticket, and their media confreres went into panic mode when the extent of Walz's decades of chumminess with Beijing and his dozens of visits to the People's Republic came under scrutiny during the 2024 campaign. The full story still has not been told, but here's a disturbing glimpse:

• Walz first went to China to teach in 1989. While thousands of Chinese were

Becky Pringle (left) and Randi Weingarten (right) with Jill Biden

AP Photo / Rod Lamkey

"Becky's just worried about her gravy train coming to an end," he noted, referring to the almost $496,000 annual salary she rakes in.

Her cohort at the second largest teachers union makes even more: nearly $570,000 per year. "Randi Weingarten — she's the president of the American Federation of Teachers," DeAngelis told One America News in January. He noted that "99.97 percent of her union's campaign contributions in 2024 went to the Democrats. It's a money laundering operation." In fact, he called the Democratic Party a "wholly owned subsidiary" of America's teachers unions.

Indeed, Weingarten is a darling of the Left. She co-chaired Hillary Clinton's 2000 U.S. Senate campaign and served on President Joe Biden's Academic Partnership Council. Since 2018 she has been "married" to Sharon Kleinbaum, rabbi of the leading synagogue for LGBT Jews in New York.

Under the radical watch of such villains, U.S. students' academic records evince notable and persistent lags behind top-performing nations, according to metrics such as the Program for International Student Assessment and Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. But what does that matter to those following in the footsteps of the atheists and secular humanists (like John Dewey and William F. Phelps) who founded the organizations Pringle and Weingarten now represent?

These women are worthy successors, weaponizing children as did their antecedents. Both published emotionally charged statements on their respective websites about ICE protests. Weingarten used the excuse that "children are terrified, families are afraid to send their kids to school and people who are sick are afraid to get medical care." Likewise, Pringle hypocritically equivocated: "All students, regardless of race, background, or ZIP code, deserve to feel safe and welcomed at school, with the respect and security they need to learn and thrive." In other words, let's weaponize taxpayers' children and exploit them to protect aliens who enroll their children in our public schools.

Like their forebears, Pringle and Weingarten use the fabricated pretext of concern for children's safety and well-being to justify their undermining not only of education and the family, but of law and order as well. Based on their respective track records, it would behoove parents to heed the lessons of history and beware the vested interest masquerading as a moral cause. ■

— Rebecca Terrell

AP Photo / Damian Dovarganes

Hypocrite: Disgraced former CNN reporter Don Lemon, shown at a press conference, claims First Amendment rights as a "journalist." But he violated the First Amendment-protected rights of worshippers as he interrupted a Minneapolis church service along with anti-ICE protesters.

being slaughtered at Tiananmen Square that year, he wrote that he was "being treated like a king" in China.

• He began taking students to China and praised Chinese communism as a system in which "everyone shares" and gets free food and housing.

• After China's Confucius Institutes were exposed as propaganda arms of the CCP, more than 100 U.S. colleges and universities closed their programs down. But Minnesota's state universities are among the few that maintain the programs.

• Even worse, Walz has continued promoting the pre-K-12 Confucius Classrooms with their "Chinese Immersion" programs that have indoctrinated thousands of students in Minnesota's public schools.

• More directly to the point of the CCP's involvement in the current Minneapolis mayhem is the multitude of CCP-tied groups leading the anti-ICE melees.

Foremost among the Beijing-aligned organizations is the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), which achieved recent notoriety with the election of DSA-endorsed Marxist-Islamist Zohran Mamdani, the new mayor of New York City. Recent documents, testimony, and DSA emails obtained by *Newsweek* show top DSA officials working with CCP officials, meeting CCP officials in China, and taking money from CCP front groups in the United States. The DSA has a big political footprint in Minnesota. DSA-endorsed officeholders include Governor Tim Walz and Attorney General Keith Ellison; state legislators Omar Fateh, Jen McEwen, Zaynab Mohamed, Athena Hollins, and Samantha Sencer-Mura; and local officials Robin Wonsley, Aisha Chughtai, Jason Chavez, Nelsie Yang, Mai Chong Xiong, and Wendy Durrwachter.

DSA is one of the chief organizations leading the Minneapolis chaos. It is important to note that interactions between U.S. organizations such as DSA and China are handled through the CCP's United Front Works Department (UFWD), which Xi Jinping refers to as China's "magic weapon." There are about 600 UFWD-weaponized groups that have been identified in the United States engaging in propaganda, influence operations, espionage, election interference, recruitment, and more. Like China's fentanyl offensive and its relentless cyberattacks and TikTok propaganda, sowing social discord is a key part of the CCP's strategy of "unrestricted warfare."

Like DSA, CODEPINK (also styled Code Pink) is a major actor in Minnesota's anarchy alliance that is taking the anti-ICE campaign nationwide. The moneyman behind the far-left organization is American former tech mogul Neville Roy Singham, who pours millions of dollars into left-wing groups. Singham, who is a Maoist with business operations and a home in China, is married to CODEPINK founder Jodie Evans. He is now under federal investigation for allegedly funding anti-ICE activities, but reportedly has fled to China to avoid subpoena.

Forward US (also styled FWD.us) is one of many "donor advised" funds that shovel huge payouts to an assortment of pass-through accounts (such as Arabella Advisors and Tides Advocacy) that then send the lucre on to the street radicals, thus masking their direct connection. Chief funders of FWD.us are Meta/Facebook billionaires Mark and Priscilla Zuckerberg, Microsoft founder Bill Gates, LinkedIn founder (and Bilderberg/Council on Foreign Relations honcho) Reid Hoffman, Netflix co-CEO Reed Hastings, and former Google executive chairman Eric Schmidt.

The People's Forum is a socialist, CCP-aligned group that helps organize and lead many "anti-imperialist," "anti-capitalist" campaigns, which invariably means anti-American campaigns. Interestingly, it has received more than $18 million from the Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund.

On and on it goes. What we are witnessing in Minnesota is not an organic, grassroots uprising of local Americans. We are seeing instead the communists of the Beijing regime and the globalists of the Davos regime collaborating with and funding professional agitators to create the chaos they intend to use to usher in their New World Order. Although President Donald Trump is given to hyperbole, he was not exaggerating when he said the anti-ICE riots are the work of "paid agitators and insurrectionists" and an "enemy within." This is not to endorse all of the activities and methods of Operation Metro Surge and the actions of all the federal individuals involved. There is much room for disagreement there. However, it is clear that we are *already* engaged in a very real, pre-planned war. And the planners intend to escalate it to a full-fledged civil war. ■

Communist Party USA members at an anti-ICE protest

SOROS' MINNESOTA HANDPRINTS
SUBVERSIVE PROSECUTORS & STREET THUGS

AT A GLANCE

- Minnesota is full of "Soros DAs," including Attorney General Keith Ellison and Hennepin County (Minneapolis) Prosecutor Mary Moriarty.
- Left-wing activist criminals are systematically protected from state and local prosecution by the Tim Walz administration.
- Members of that administration, including Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, have allegedly been colluding with street mobs via ICE Watch Signal chats.
- Mary Moriarty recently joined eight other Soros DAs nationwide to launch Project for the Fight Against Federal Overreach (FAFO).

by William F. Jasper

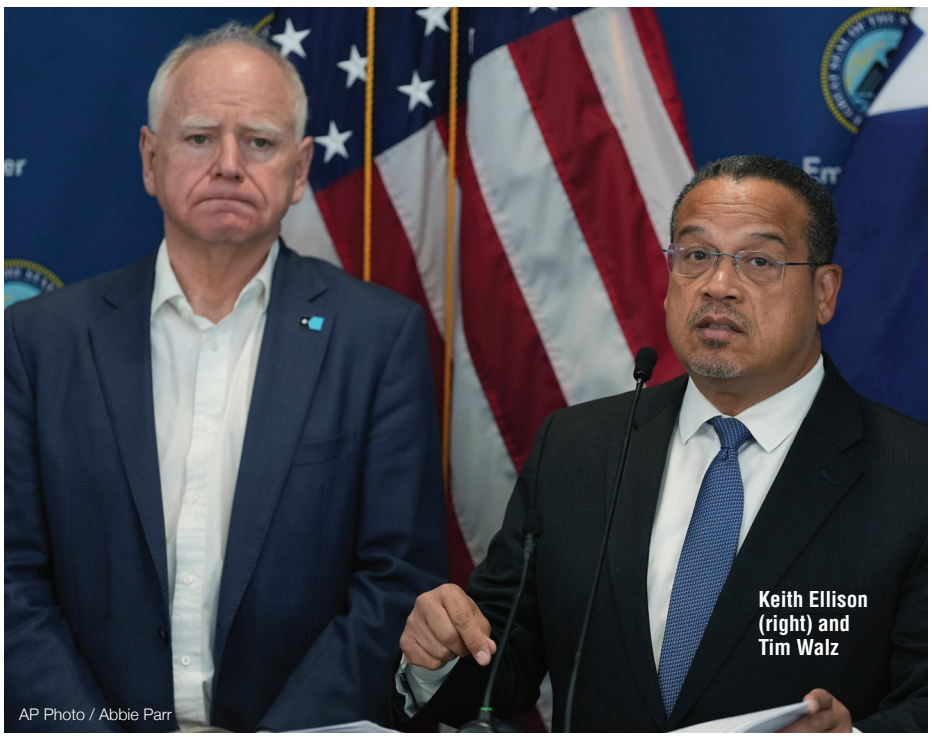
No question, Minnesota has a prosecutorial problem, from the state's attorney general down to local district attorneys. In addition to being endorsed by the anti-ICE militants of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), Attorney General Keith Ellison is a "Soros DA," one of the dozens of prosecutors put into office over the past decade by George Soros and his billionaire comrades. In 2018, George Soros' son Alexander gave $100,000 to the People's Lawyer PAC, an independent expenditure committee launched to support Ellison's initial run for attorney general. In 2022, George and Alexander Soros each donated the maximum individual amount of $2,500 to Ellison's 2022 reelection campaign.

Ellison is soft on criminals but hard on Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). In fact, he sides with the criminal rioters and threatens to prosecute ICE officers even as the rioters physically attack them; criminally set up road blocks and act as self-appointed police, demanding identification from motorists and pedestrians; and physically attack those they view as opponents.

Ellison has also received generous funding from Somalis involved in Minnesota's massive, multibillion-dollar fraud scandal. An audio recording of his secret meeting with Somalis who were later convicted of fraud seems to indicate his willingness to cover for them. He is being investigated and has been subpoenaed to appear before the House Oversight Committee.

Backing up Ellison is Assistant Attorney General Caitlin Micko. She is the wife of federal Judge Douglas Micko, who notoriously released Tyler Maxon Avalos, a Minnesota anarchist who had been federally charged with posting a $45,000 "dead or alive (preferably dead)" bounty on Attorney General Pam Bondi, complete with a poster showing crosshairs on Bondi's forehead. This release occurred despite the fact that Avalos is a serial offender who previously has been convicted of multiple felonies. More recently, the same Judge Micko refused to approve criminal charges or sign an arrest warrant for former CNN reporter Don Lemon for his participation in the criminal invasion of a Minnesota church service and the terrorizing of worshippers by anti-ICE extremists.

Then there's Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty, another Soros DA, whom the U.K.'s *Daily Mail* has labeled "America's wokest prosecutor." Moriarty, who was celebrated in the media for publicly "coming out" as a lesbian, received a massive infusion of more than $500,000 from four Soros-backed organizations for her 2023 DA race. As Minneapolis' lead prosecutor, she has caused outrage for turning loose convicted murderers and rapists while threatening to prosecute Minnesotans over "hateful" messages aimed at the Somali community. Moriarty has repeatedly praised and defended the Somali community, ridiculously claiming that there are no Somali gangs in Minneapolis. Such accusations, she says, are part of the "campaign of hatred and fear" by Donald Trump's administration. Really? Somali gangs such as the Somali Outlaws, Hot Boyz, 1627 Boys, Somali Mafia, and Young n' Thuggin are some of the main Twin City gangs whose members have racked up criminal records that include murder, assault, robbery, drugs, prostitution, and human trafficking.


AP Photo / Abbie Parr

Keith Ellison (right) and Tim Walz

There's more. Remember last year's nationwide spate of vandalism against Tesla dealerships in response to Elon Musk's involvement with the Department of Government Efficiency? Well, one vandal, apparently, is a Walz employee in the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Dylan Bryan Adams was allegedly caught on surveillance cameras "keying" multiple Tesla vehicles in downtown Minneapolis, with estimated damages exceeding $20,000. No problem: no firing, no suspension, no prosecution. Same for Moriarty's top aide Jamael Lundy, who was one of the church invaders with Don Lemon. Lundy is married to St. Paul City Council member Anika Bowie, a "community organizer" and "social justice" activist.

Although left-wing activist criminals in Minnesota need not fear prosecution by state or local prosecutors, federal prosecutions are another matter altogether. Ellison, Moriarty, and a host of additional state and local officials and political activists may soon face federal indictments and arrest on conspiracy, obstruction, and other serious charges. Illustrative of the systemic penetration of the state's institutions by hard-left cadres are recent revelations that high officials and their advisors and allies allegedly are involved in organizing the sophisticated ICE Watch efforts that are obstructing ICE enforcements, harassing private citizens, and stirring up mob violence. Tim Walz's lieutenant governor, Peggy Flanagan; former Walz advisor Amanda Koehler; and Minneapolis Federation of Educators President Marcia Howard have been fingered as leaders of encrypted ICE Watch Signal chats that coordinate the street mobs.

CNN, *USA Today*, NPR, and other media outlets portray ICE Watch as a grassroots band of civic-minded heroes defending their community against federal tyranny. Turns out they are more astroturf than grassroots, more synthetic than organic. ICE Watch appears to be the offspring of a little-known NGO with an outsized footprint that goes by the name "States at the Core" (STAC). Based in

AP Photo / Renée Jones Schneider

Washington, D.C., STAC boasts on its website and Substack page that it "Trained over 12,000 people from 20 states in community defense through our ICE Watch trainings."

In a December 24, 2025 post titled "Beyond Resistance: In 2026, We Reclaim Democracy," STAC announced a January webinar to train more ICE Watch activists. In a January 12 post, States at the Core listed its nationwide training webinars for February. The organization is clearly planning to amp up and ramp up its anti-ICE, anti-Trump campaign for the summer riot season. STAC is secretive regarding its funding sources, but it obviously has a substantial revenue stream. One of its documented sources of funding is the Democracy Fund of eBay billionaire Pierre Omidyar, who has funneled millions of dollars into hundreds of "progressive" causes, candidates, and NGOs, including many involved in "migrant rights" and "social justice."

Further clues to STAC's financial sources can be seen in its leadership, beginning with co-founder and advisory board chairman Eric K. Ward, who is a former senior fellow at the far-left Southern Poverty Law Center. This helps explain his obsession with America's supposed affliction of "white supremacy" and "white nationalism."

Prior to his SPLC stint, Ward served as program officer for gender, racial, and ethnic justice at the Ford Foundation, one of the largest funders of open-border radicals over the past six decades, including the likes of Reies Tijerina, who led a murderous rampage through the Southwest in the 1960s. Joining Ward on the STAC advisory board is veteran Soros lieutenant Nora Ranney, who has served as a top-level officer in the Open Society Foundations, the ACLU, the Progressive States Network, and the National Priorities Project, all of which are intensely involved in promoting "migrant rights" and undermining enforcement of U.S. immigration laws.

On January 28, Mary Moriarty joined eight other Soros DAs to launch Project for the Fight Against Federal Overreach (FAFO) to prosecute federal immigration agents. The new outfit was organized by one of Soros' most infamous DAs, Philadelphia's Larry Krasner, who vowed to "hunt" down ICE agents whom he accuses of breaking the law. "If we have to hunt you down the way they hunted down Nazis for decades, we will find your identities. We will find you," Krasner warned. DAs joining Moriarty and Krasner to start the project are Virginia prosecutors Ramin Fatehi of Norfolk, Parisa Dehghani-Tafti of Arlington, Stephanie Morales of Portsmouth, and Steve Descano of Fairfax; Texas prosecutors José Garza in Austin and John Creuzot in Dallas; and Laura Conover of Pima County, Arizona. The Washington Free Beacon noted that "Soros, through his Justice & Public Safety PAC, contributed $1.7 million to Krasner's inaugural campaign in 2017," and that "nearly all of the coalition members have received significant campaign donations from Soros."

More leftist prosecutors are likely to join the FAFO "reformers" in coming weeks and months. This will mean an accelerated lawfare effort to thwart all attempts by the Trump administration to undo the lawless policies of Joe Biden's administration that opened our borders to millions of unvetted illegal aliens from all corners of the Earth. Together with their allied governors and county and city officials, as well as ACLU attorneys and activist judges, the FAFO DAs will be providing pressure from above while the paid street agitators and their misguided followers provide pressure from below. The insurrection is being stoked from all angles. No good can come from it, only violence and tragedy. ■

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Members of the Somali community outside a courthouse in Minneapolis

SOMALIS IN MINNESOTA

Perpetrated "Industrial-scale" Fraud

AP Photo / Jim Mone

AT A GLANCE

- Somali couriers have carried hundreds of millions of dollars in cash out of the United States since Tim Walz became Minnesota governor.
- Millions of dollars have been fraudulently transferred from Minnesota taxpayers to the Islamic terrorist group Al-Shabaab.
- Somalis have set up multiple sophisticated fraud schemes for stealing and laundering money from government sources, including child nutrition programs and Medicaid.
- Immigration fraud is also rampant in the Somali community.

by R. Cort Kirkwood

Americans who want to see the consequences of uncontrolled welfare spending and unfettered Third World immigration should look closely at Minnesota, notably Minneapolis, the center of the Somali welfare-fraud scandal that broke after the first of the year.

The invaders from the Horn of Africa have robbed myriad programs subsidized by not only Minnesota's, but also federal taxpayers. One juicy target was the "free" food money the government passed out as Covid-19 subsidies. Other targets include autism, daycare, housing, and medical transportation subsidies.

The total stolen is at least $18 billion since 2018, in what a federal prosecutor called "industrial-scale" fraud. And the fraud, federal and state legislators know, began long before then, perhaps as early as 2009.

"We believe that the Somali fraud operation in Minnesota is the single greatest theft of taxpayer dollars through welfare fraud in American history," White House aide Stephen Miller told Fox News.

Almost $1 billion was shipped overseas, some of it to the Somali Al-Shabaab terror outfit. Indeed, the terror group receives a cut of every dollar the Somalis move out of the country, one official said.

Of course, were the federal government not unconstitutionally subsidizing everything from daycare to food purchases, the fraud would have been impossible. Then again, had the same government under presidents of both parties not imported tens of thousands of people from a country where thievery and corruption aren't just quotidian routine but widely praised and accepted, they wouldn't have been here to rob the taxpayers.

Almost $1 Billion in Cash Headed Abroad

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the Somali fraud in Minnesota is not the billions stolen from taxpayers, but what happened to the money.

R. Cort Kirkwood is a longtime contributor to The New American *and a former newspaper editor.*

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the Somali fraud in Minnesota is not the billions stolen from taxpayers, but what happened to the money.

Somalis shipped almost $1 billion abroad in suitcases through the city airport, after openly declaring the loot to Transportation Security Agency (TSA) employees. As Just the News reported in January, TSA "flagged nearly $700 million in cash detected in passengers' luggage leaving the Minneapolis airport the last two years, a massive cash exodus believed to be tied to Somali immigrants and their money couriers."

The massive exodus of cash began at about the time far-left Governor Tim Walz took office. And the total, the website reported, "has grown substantially in recent years."

Following U.S. Customs rules, the couriers declared the greenbacks lawfully, sometimes carrying out $1 million in one trip.

Homeland Security investigators are looking at the transfers as part of the fraud conspiracies among Somalis. "Officials said most of the dollars detected in luggage involved a small number of money couriers of Somali descent who took routine routes to Dubai via Amsterdam, usually from Minneapolis but other times from Seattle, Dallas, Columbus and Atlanta," the website reported:

> Minneapolis travelers alone had $342.37 million in their luggage in 2024 and $349.4 million in 2025, and the totals nationwide are likely to be much higher, the officials told Just the News.
>
> TSA agents routinely flagged the cash movements to Customs and Border Protection and Homeland Security Investigations, but there was little curiosity during the Biden administration. ...
>
> One senior official who declined to be identified but has first-hand knowledge of the issue told Just the News that there wasn't much that could be done because the couriers always had their paperwork in order.

Minnesota officials did what was expected when federal officials asked questions about the Somali crooks: They cried racist about what is obviously a major criminal conspiracy.

"Federal and state law enforcement officials said the Somali cash flows were well known in counterterrorism circles since the 2016-18 timeframe because of concerns some of the money might head to al-Qaeda offshoot groups like Al-Shabaab and Boko Haram, but most tracking of the money ended when the money reached Dubai because of a lack of interest and curiosity during the Biden administration even as the transfers grew in size," the website explained.

Bottom line: The couriers were moving $1 million a day out of the country for at least two years.

"It was like a cash ATM draining American dollars and moving them overseas, and nobody in the Biden administration seemed to think anything of it," an official told the website. Officials also said the Somali cash that left the Minneapolis airport in 2025 exceeded that flowing through other major airports, such as Atlanta, Dallas-Fort Worth, or New York's John F. Kennedy.

The website also reported that TSA agents have flagged $130 million leaving Ohio's John Glenn Columbus International Airport since November 2023:

> The cash movements were made by U.S. citizens of Somali origin who flew out of the Columbus airport en route to either the airports in Minneapolis or Atlanta, and the couriers always declared the cash as legally required on documents, officials said.
>
> "Typically, when they go to Minneapolis, they drop off the cash and then a subsequent courier travels abroad from Minneapolis to Dubai through Amsterdam," one official familiar with the investigation told Just the News.

That means the Somalis are likely defrauding taxpayers in Ohio as well.

Former TSA agent Liz Jaksa witnessed suitcases full of cash and, of all things, passports, go through the airport in Minneapolis, she told Liz Collin of Alpha News. "I've seen a lot of things, but the most shocking is exactly that," said Jaksa, who worked at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport from 2016 to 2021. "I saw suitcases filled with millions of dollars of cash, and the couriers were always Somali men traveling in pairs."

Jaksa said their documents were always in order, and that the men could be identified by surveillance cameras.

"The MO was always two Somalian men traveling in pairs," Jaksa told Collin. "Sometimes they both had suitcases. So the process was as a TSA agent, we would pull the bag and then we'd bring them to a private screening room and we would open the suitcase and make sure that that's all it was, was stacks of cash."

One Somali packed his carry-on bag with passports, Jaksa told Collin. "He was allowed to get through the checkpoint. So where he went with those passports is anybody's guess," she said.

GOP Representative Tom Emmer of Minnesota, who wants Somalis involved in the fraud denaturalized and deported, told Just the News that the ill-gotten cash might have landed in the coffers of the Al-Shabaab terror outfit.

"They're trying to get as much money out of here as possible," Emmer told the website:

> And keep in mind the fact that a large part of it goes to Dubai and then gets laundered to other places. …
>
> At the end of the rope was Al-

Ilhan Omar

AP Photo / J. Scott Applewhite

> Shabaab in Somalia. Some of it went directly to Somalia. At least, I know of $5 million that has gone directly to Al-Shabaab in Somalia, from Minnesota. So it's amazing. Whole thing is a powder keg that has been allowed to exist for years by Democrats who benefit off of corruption.

GOP Senators Ted Budd of North Carolina, Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee, and Buddy Carter of Georgia have introduced a bill to ensure that convicted immigrant fraudsters will be denaturalized and deported.

Where the Money Went

At one time a strong defender of the Somali invaders, Emmer wasn't just blowing smoke in claiming the money was sent to terrorists. As the *City Journal* reported, "the largest funder of Al-Shabaab is the Minnesota taxpayer."

"According to multiple law-enforcement sources, Minnesota's Somali community has sent untold millions through a network of 'hawalas,' informal clan-based money-traders, that have wound up in the coffers of Al-Shabaab," the website reported:

> According to Glenn Kerns, a retired Seattle Police Department detective who spent 14 years on a federal Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), the Somalis ran a sophisticated money network, spanning from Seattle to Minneapolis, and were routing significant amounts of cash on commercial flights from the Seattle airport to the hawala networks in Somalia. One of these networks, Kerns discovered, sent $20 million abroad in a single year. "The amount of money was staggering," Kerns said.

A second former official on the state terrorism task force confirmed the story.

"Every scrap of economic activity, in the Twin Cities, in America, throughout Western Europe, anywhere Somalis are concentrated, every cent that is sent back to Somalia benefits Al-Shabaab in some way," the official told the website. "For every dollar that is transferred from the Twin Cities back to Somalia, Al-Shabaab is ... taking a cut of it."

Food Fraud

The Somalis generated the money they sent overseas by defrauding multiple programs subsidized by American taxpayers.

Tops among them was the fraud scheme that robbed federal child nutrition programs. During the bogus Covid-19 panic, the U.S. Department of Agriculture outlandishly waived some requirements for state organizations to join the programs.

In stepped Feeding Our Future, led by a crooked white woman, former Executive Director Aimee Bock. The key Somali conspirator was Salim Said. Total theft: $250 million.

"Feeding Our Future employees recruited individuals and entities to open Federal Child Nutrition Program sites throughout the state of Minnesota," reported the Justice Department (DOJ):

> These sites, created and operated by Bock, Said, and others, fraudulently claimed to be serving meals to thousands of children a day within just days or weeks of being formed.
>
> Bock and Said created and submitted false documentation, including fraudulent meal counts consisting of fake attendance rosters purporting to list the names and ages of the children receiving meals at the sites each day. Feeding Our Future submitted these fraudulent claims to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and then disbursed the fraudulently obtained Federal Child Nutrition Program funds to their co-conspirators involved in the scheme.…
>
> Bock and Said created dozens of shell companies to enroll in the program as food program sites, and to receive and launder the proceeds of their fraudulent scheme.

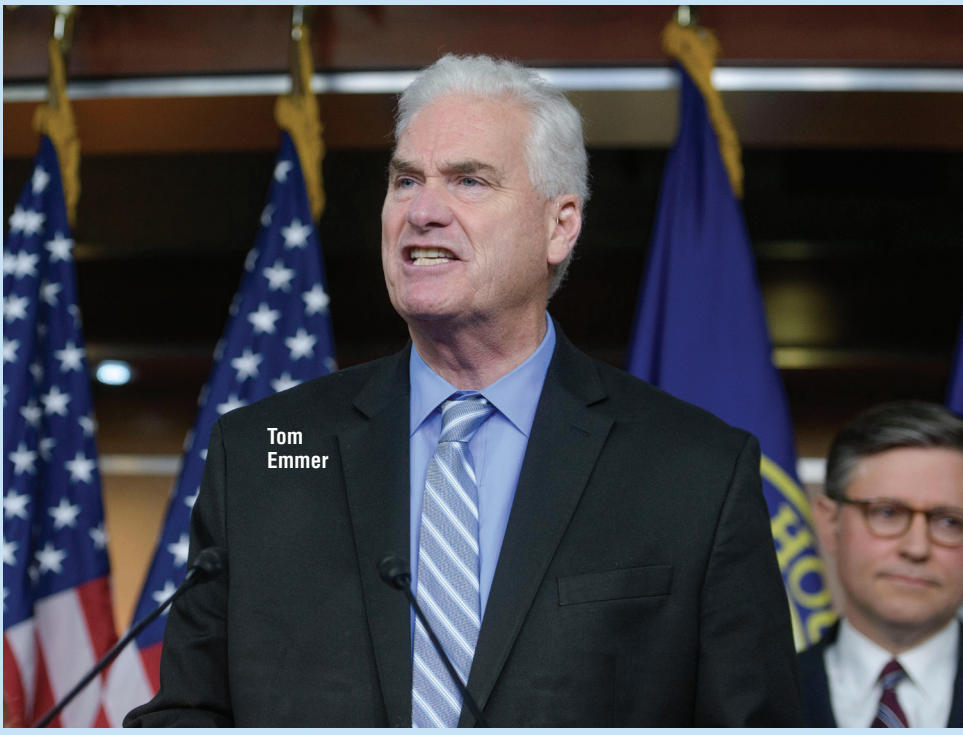
Somali thief Abdimajid Mohamed Nur, 24, is a prime example of how lucrative the scheme was: He stole $47.92 million. Nur ran the "Empire Cuisine & Market, a small storefront halal market in Shakopee," DOJ explained at his trial:

> Empire Cuisine enrolled in the Federal Child Nutrition Program in April 2020 — during the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic and within weeks of registering the company with the Minnesota Secretary of State.
>
> Nur and his co-conspirators immediately opened several federal child

> nutrition program sites and began claiming — falsely — to be serving meals to thousands of children per day. These claims were fraudulent. … [N]o meals at all were served at many of the Empire Cuisine "sites." Many of their purported food "sites" were nothing more than parking lots or vacant commercial spaces. Indeed, at some of the sites, it was instead the Shakopee Public Schools who were actually serving meals to kids.

Another Somali fraudster, Abdirashid Bixi Dool, claimed to serve kids 42,000 meals a week — 6,000 a day, every day. Only a state or federal bureaucrat could believe such a ridiculous claim. But Dool was an amateur compared to other Somali crooks — he got away with a mere $1.1 million.

To date, federal prosecutors have charged 78 defendants and convicted 57.



AP Photo / Rod Lamkey

Medicaid Schemes

As some Somalis defrauded a federal food program meant for poor kids, others scammed an unconstitutional housing program administered through the equally unconstitutional Medicaid program.

In September, prosecutors charged eight Somali defendants. In December, they charged two more, plus two Philadelphians who jumped on the gravy train.

All facing wire-fraud allegations, the Somalis "devised and carried out schemes to defraud federally funded health care benefits collected within Minnesota's Housing Stability Services [HSS] Program," the Justice Department said:

> The HSS Program dates back to July 2022, when Minnesota became the first state in the country to offer Medicaid coverage for Housing Stabilization Services. The Program was designed to help people with disabilities, including seniors and people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders, find and maintain housing. Rather than provide such help, the defendants obtained and misappropriated millions of dollars in program funds that were intended as reimbursements for services provided to those people.
>
> The Program permitted reimbursements for four principal kinds of services: (1) housing consultation; (2) housing transition services; (3) housing sustaining services; and (4) moving expenses.

Naturally, the grifting socialists who designed the program created "low barriers to entry for new providers and for beneficiaries" and set up "minimal requirements for reimbursement," which is why it was so easy for the Somalis to rob it.

"Before the Program's inaugural year, the Program was predicted to cost about $2.6 million annually," DOJ explained:

> That proved to be inaccurate. In 2021 alone, the Program paid out more than $21 million in claims. That figure ballooned in the following years: $42 million in 2022, $74 million in 2023, $104 million in 2024. In just the first six months of 2025, the Program paid out another $61 million.

Amusingly, when the Libs of TikTok X

As some Somalis defrauded a federal food program meant for poor kids, others scammed an unconstitutional housing program administered through the equally unconstitutional Medicaid program.

Former Mafia Capo:

The Somali Fraud in Minnesota Was Organized, and Walz Was Part of It

AP Photo / Matt Rourke

Michael Franzese knows something about defrauding the government.

A former *capo* in the Colombo family in New York, Franzese, who reformed and is now a popular YouTube personality, landed in prison for his notorious yet brilliant gas-tax fraud scheme. That operation involved selling gasoline, but not paying state and federal tax on it, which brought in some $8 million a week. An associate testified that Franzese earned $1 million weekly.

"I know the scams," he said in a YouTube video about the Somali fraudsters and politicians who enabled them. "I ran one of the biggest tax scams this country had ever seen in the gasoline business." "So when I look at what's happening in Minnesota with this Somali daycare and food program fraud, I don't see confusion. I don't see waste. I see a classic operation. Shell companies, dirty paperwork, people skimming a system that nobody is really watching or paying attention to."

And far-left Democratic Governor Tim Walz, he said, was part of the scam. "I believe he's a thief also because he knew this was going on," Franzese said: "He's supported in great part by the Somali community. And they're the ones that perpetrated the fraud."

Outlining the red flags that he recognized immediately, Franzese said the magnitude of the fraud and how the Somalis accomplished it "tells me this is organized."

"There are a couple of big red flags here." The first is "the scale of it: When you're taking hundreds of millions of dollars, and now, over a billion, many billions, in suspected social services fraud in one state, that's not a mistake," he continued. "That's a business model."

The second red flag is "patterns," with "multiple daycare and food sites with no kids on-site, locked doors, recycled addresses, but all billing like crazy," Franzese said:

> That's how you spread the risk through a network.
>
> Why didn't Tim Walz know this? Why didn't Ilhan Omar know this? Why didn't any of the government officials know this? The doors were locked, there were no kids, and they were still being billed, still billing the government because they were all sharing in it. Don't let them gaslight you.

Omar might well have known about the fraud. The third red flag is timing, Franzese said:

> A lot of this grew out of Covid emergency money and loose welfare programs where the message was pay first, ask questions later. That's exactly when professional thieves move in. In the mob, when we saw a weak collection point like taxes, fuel, unions, we built an operation around it. The people in Minnesota, they did the same damn thing with social services, stealing taxpayer money.

Aimee Bock, the fraudstress convicted in the Feeding Our Future food scam, claims Walz and other top officials, including Attorney General Keith Ellison, knew about the fraud. "I have to believe the governor's office and Keith Ellison's office were aware of this," she told Fox News.

The fraud is nothing new, says John Birch Society President William F. Jasper. He said the organized crime is occurring "on an enormous scale" nationwide and "is not a recent phenomenon."

"It has been going on for decades," he continued. "It's just that the Biden migrant tsunami, which surged millions of illegals across our borders, together with a Trump administration that means business about securing our borders, has finally made this issue a top national priority."

Also a senior editor for *The New American*, Jasper filmed, narrated, and produced the groundbreaking 1988 video *Out of Control: The Immigration Invasion* (still available on YouTube, JBS.org, and other websites). It detailed corruption and national security dangers nearly four decades ago, while also accurately predicting that open borders would end in the debacles now being uncovered.

"This is not the result of ignorance, incompetence, or even mere greed," Jasper said. Rather, the immigrant invasion and what followed "is the bipartisan, intentional, treasonous actions of politicians and their globalist masters who are pushing an agenda to completely 'reset,' i.e., transform, the United States and Western Europe."

"Statements and documents of the United Nations, the UN's International Organization for Migration, the Socialist International, the Progressive International, the World Economic Forum, the Council on Foreign Relations, and other globalist and communist organizations" prove it, he continued:

> They do not care about the refugees and migrants, they are merely using them to flood the West with incompatible, non-assimilating masses who will cause economic havoc and social turmoil that can be exploited and weaponized. We are witnessing this today in Minneapolis. ■

AP Photo / Shari L. Gross

AP Photo / Shari L. Gross

feed published the names of the African crooks, President Donald Trump asked on Truth Social whether far-left Democratic U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar, a Somali refugee who represents Minneapolis, knew them.

Somalis also found another way to rob Medicaid. Federal prosecutors have charged a cultural enricher called Abdinajib Hassan Yussuf, 27, with defrauding Minnesota's Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention benefit. Subsidized by Medicaid, it's supposed to help kids under age 21 with autism.

Yussuf's outfit, called Star Autism, "purported to provide necessary one-on-one therapy to children with autism," the Justice Department alleged:

> In fact, Star Autism employed unqualified individuals as "behavioral technicians." These behavioral technicians were often 18- or 19-year-old relatives, with no formal education beyond high school and no training or certifications related to the treatment of autism.

Yussuf and his gang solicited Somali parents to enroll their kids in the program even if they didn't have autism. The parents received kickbacks. Total loss to taxpayers: More than $6 million. Yussuf spent more than $100,000 to buy a tractor-trailer, prosecutors allege, and packed off $200,000 to Kenya.

In September, a Somali involved in the Feeding Our Future fraud pleaded guilty for her role in a $14 million autism scheme. You might call her a double dipper.

Another outfit, Ultimate Home Health Services LLC, participated in a Medicaid program called Integrated Community Supports (ICS), another brainstorm that was easily robbed. "The ICS program has seen explosive growth over the five years since it began in 2021," DOJ reported:

> After paying out a total of approximately $4.6 million in 2021, the program has grown to cost more than $170 million in 2024. In all, claims data shows that the Medicaid system has paid out more than $400 million for ICS services since 2021.
>
> According to [Minnesota Department of Human Services] records, Ultimate Home Health Services submitted claims for reimbursement for over $1.1 million in ICS funds between approximately June 2024 and August 2025. During that time, Ultimate Home Health Services submitted claims on behalf of a total of 13 clients. According to [a] search warrant affidavit, ICS billed Medicaid for services for multiple individuals that it did not provide. ICS falsely claimed to have provided ICS services to one individual on all but four days over a 447-day period.
>
> Another individual with severe mental illness was found dead in his apartment … he was receiving ICS services from Ultimate Home Health at the time of his death.… Ultimate Home Health claimed to be providing 12 hours of services a day, although the individual's mother, who visited him at least once a week, said that Ultimate Home Health was not providing anywhere near the care for which they were billing Medicaid.

Not immune from the fraudsters is the Small Business Administration, which cut subsidies to the state after the daycare fraud was revealed. SBA has uncovered $400 million in fraudulent Covid loans to borrowers in the state.

Daycare, Transportation Fraud

Revelations about the daycare fraud opened the public's eyes to the magnitude of Somali criminality, which became

The Somalis generated the money they sent overseas by defrauding multiple programs subsidized by American taxpayers.Tops among them was the fraud scheme that robbed federal child nutrition programs.

a major issue because of an independent journalist. With his camera and shoe-leather reporting, Nick Shirley unraveled what Minnesota's Mandarins couldn't. Shirley identified multiple daycare centers that were receiving federal subsidies yet had no children on the premises. Total fraud Shirley uncovered: $110 million.

Shirley interviewed concerned Minnesotan David Hoch, who described the results of his own research. Explaining that the fraud could be as high as $10 billion, Hoch said that his office is located "in the heart of all of this fraud, and I would see these childcare centers.… Well, there aren't any kids there. It's the middle of the day, and all I see are a couple of guys standing out front smoking. And then I'd go by another daycare and see the same thing." Hoch found a daycare licensed for 80 children that had "zero" children. "Every time I went by there," he averred, "they never had a single child."

Shirley and Hoch visited empty daycares, which invited the fury of the employees. Shirley also interviewed a Minnesotan who works near one of the centers. He, too, said he never sees any kids. And he hasn't since 2017, yet the center received $3.4 million in tax money.

Hoch also detailed the fraud by "transportation companies."

"I started to see all these transportation companies going around, and it was always a Somali driver and I said, 'well, that's great, they're out there … contributing,'" Hoch told Shirley:

> But they never had a passenger, never ever once, and I said, "Well, what is all this transportation, what are they doing?" So, then I found out that in Minnesota, they have something called non-emergency medical transportation. So this is going to the dentist's office, therapy, whatever it might be, and I said, "Well, how many of these companies are there?" And research came back that there were 1,020 of them and more than 800 of them are Somali-owned. Nobody from the state … ever crosscheck[ed] to see if any rides were ever actually provided. All they did was write the check.

Thus did Shirley release another video, this one alleging about $16 million in transportation fraud. Shirley and Hoch visited the "transportation companies" and found that some were at apartment complexes, a violation of Minnesota law. One address housed three companies with almost identical names. Shirley also reported that some locations had no vehicles.

Shirley noted that the myriad fraud schemes have been so lucrative that they exceed Somalia's gross domestic product of about $13.9 billion. A federal prosecutor told CBS News that the "industrial-scale" fraud since 2018 is $18 billion.

Bad as all that is, Minnesota and federal officials have known about the fraud since at least 2018, and probably since 2009. Former GOP Representative Jason Lewis, who represented Minnesota's 2nd District, blew the whistle in a congressional hearing in 2018. Nothing was done. "We've got a number of daycare providers that are openly violating federal and state laws and regulations, taking money for personal use, using the money to set up a fraudulent child care client and then providing a kickback," he said at the time.

"This is a major issue," he continued:

> There are allegations that … we've got 23 child care or daycare centers either closed or under investigation. The fraud may go as high as $100 million.... In fiscal year 2018, Minnesota received $120 million in federal funding, the state contributed about $50 million in matching and maintenance funds, and we may have a fraud case of nearly $100 million in this state, with money then being transferred out of the country via [Minneapolis-St. Paul] airport.

Kristin Robbins, a Republican state representative in Minnesota, told the U.S. House Oversight Committee that fraud reports go back to 2009, and that "credible reports on childcare fraud started surfacing 2011 to 2013." Worse still, Walz knew about the fraud "from the very beginning," she testified: "He was running for governor in 2018, when there were prosecutions going on, when there was an old report, active cases in the news all the time."

But Walz did nothing to stop it.

Said GOP state Representative Marion Rarick: "He absolutely knew that it was occurring."

"We believe that we've only scratched the very top of the surface of how deep this goes," that the "massive fraud, lying and theft and grift [is] on a scale we've never seen before in American history," White House aide Miller told Fox, noting that the fraud is almost certainly much worse than what's been uncovered:

> [T]he total tab for this is going to be far beyond the numbers you've already seen reported. We believe the state government is fully complicit in this scheme, and we believe that what we are going to uncover is going to shock the American people.... By the way, 75 percent of the Somali popu-

lation in Minnesota is on welfare. But that's likely a significant undercount of just how much of a financial burden the Somali refugee population is imposing.

GOP Representative Anna Paulina Luna of Florida has referred Walz and leftist Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison to the Justice Department for prosecution.

Of particular concern with the massive criminal enterprise is one individual who pretends the reports are a tempest in a teapot. Omar has openly stated on multiple occasions that she is a Somali agent of influence. Appearing on *Face the Nation*, she didn't miss a beat when hostess Margaret Brennan observed that 85 of 98 people charged in the fraud schemes are Somalis.

Replied Omar: "It's just creating fear. What they are doing is creating confusion, chaos, trying to intimidate people from being able to exercise their regular, normal activities.... There is no justification in any of the things that they say."

In one sense, she's right. For Somalis, "regular, normal activities" in Minnesota include stealing as much money as they can.

Youtube / Nick Shirley

Immigration Fraud, Somalia's Agent of Influence

Another aspect of the fraud does not involve money, at least on the surface. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) discovered at least 275 cases of outright immigration fraud after "site visits and targeted verifications for applicants and petitioners with pending immigration benefits who matched specified risk criteria," the agency reported.

The operation, USCIS reported, targeted "more than 1,000 cases that had fraud or ineligibility indicators." As well, agents "conducted over 900 site visits and in-person interviews, and found evidence of fraud, non-compliance, or public safety or national security concerns in 275 cases — 44 percent of cases interviewed."

That might include Omar, who married her brother to commit immigration fraud. Immigration authorities are supposedly investigating her on that question. And House Republicans, by the way, are investigating Omar because her net worth, and that of her husband, has rocketed up to between $6 million and $30 million in just a few years despite the couple's recent penurious past.

Most Americans likely wonder how so many Somalis landed in Minnesota. In her rescission of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Somalis here without citizenship, Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem detailed the history of open-borders policies of presidential administrations going back to George H.W. Bush. The TPS madness has continued since the *first designation on September 16, 1991*. Since then, it has been extended *27 times*.

Naturally, leftist anti-American Catholics and Lutherans were behind some of the resettlement. As the Minnesota Historical Society explains, the United States began giving visas to Somalis in 1992:

> Some came as refugees while others arrived as immigrants through the sponsorship of family members, or relocated to Minnesota from other parts of the United States. Refugee resettlement agencies like the International Institute of Minnesota and World Relief Minnesota, non-profit faith-based service organizations like Lutheran Social Services and Catholic Charities, Somali-led organizations like Somali Family Services and the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota, and Somali individuals and families helped facilitate the migration and resettlement of Somalis in Minnesota.

As the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) reported, from 1990 to 2000, more than 10,000 Somalis showed up, hat in hand, thanks to Somalia's never-ending clan wars. But that was only the beginning. The Somali population had tripled by 2010, and by 2024 had surged to more than 75,000.

Not surprisingly, "81 percent of Somali households consume some form of welfare, compared to 21 percent of native households," CIS found. "Somalis with 10 years of residency have welfare consumption rates that are only marginally lower than the Somali population as a whole."

And 86 percent of the African households with kids use Medicaid.

While the Trump administration has ended TPS for Somalis, that likely won't stop Somali immigration, which will almost certainly include even more fraud. Whatever happens to the Somali fraudsters, Americans should have learned two lessons: First, a multitrillion-dollar welfare state is incompatible with mass immigration. Second, invite the Third World, get the Third World. ■

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General Flynn: America Is Growing Frustrated With Trump

Michael T. Flynn

AP Photo / Zach Roberts / NurPhoto via AP

AT A GLANCE

- Donald Trump has so far failed to deliver the accountability for wrongdoing that he promised his voter base.
- No one has yet been charged in connection with the Epstein affair (except for his partner in crime, Ghislaine Maxwell).
- No one has been held accountable for the Russian collusion hoax or 2020 electoral fraud.
- Trump continues a policy of foreign interventionism, which has alienated many in his base.

by Paul Dragu

It's been a little over a year since Donald Trump moved back into the White House. To say his supporters voted for change is an understatement. And no doubt about it, the nation — nay, the world — got plenty of changes.

But, with a few exceptions, Trump supporters haven't gotten what they voted for.

Voters wanted, first and foremost, to preserve their country. The United States was on the path to full-blown collapse. The consequences of former President Joe Biden's open-borders policies alone would have destroyed the country had the borders stayed open. On that front, Trump has delivered — *bigly*. The Brookings Institution released a report in early January saying that America experienced negative net migration in 2025 for the first time in at least half a century.

But Trump supporters had higher expectations than simply preventing the total collapse of their country. They wanted the people who put their nation on a path to destruction to answer for what they did. Americans wanted *accountability.* And they wanted an end to the status quo. And unlike the job it's done on the border, many believe the Trump administration has failed on both those fronts.

Lieutenant General Michael T. Flynn (Ret.), a supporter who briefly worked for the president during his first term — before the Deep State torpedoed his tenure as national security advisor — is frustrated with Trump. And he believes millions of other voters are, too. On December 29, 2025, Flynn published a letter on social media addressed to Trump. "This message is sent on behalf of a very frustrated 79 million Americans who voted for you and millions more who refuse to be ignored," the letter begins. He then declares 2026 "THE YEAR OF ACCOUNTABILITY!"

Flynn cites a list of grievances and problems that plague the nation: bloated government, diminishing public trust, diminishing freedoms, unaccountable and arrogant bureaucrats, and the continuing erosion of the family.

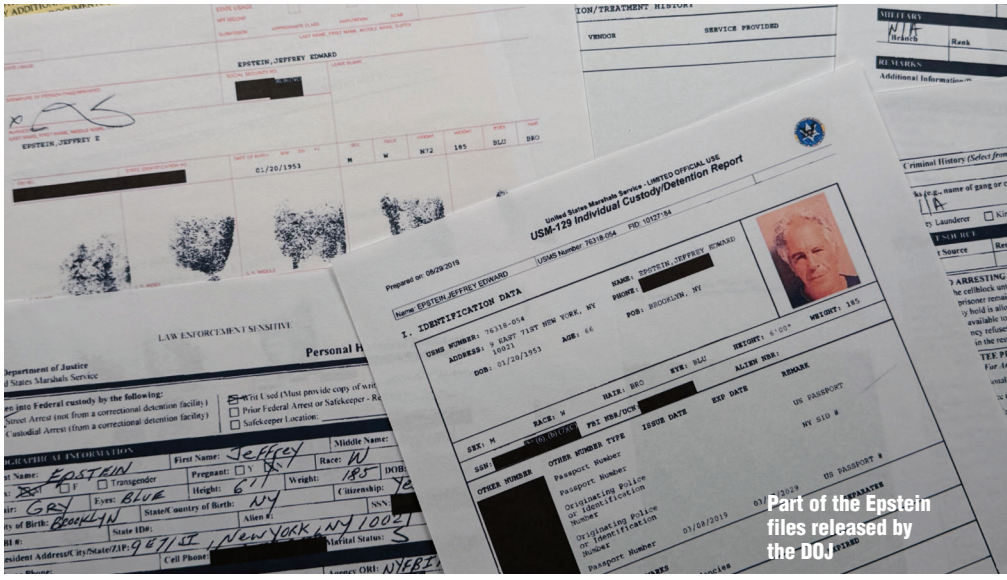
Paul Dragu is a senior editor for The New American.

Near the end, the former general asks Trump, "Will you stand with We The People or will you protect the system that failed us?" If Trump fails to respect the wishes of the American people, Flynn adds, "the deep state concentration of power in government will lead to greater corruption and eventual tyranny." Moreover, the president's "legacy in history will be tarnished beyond repair." (Many argue this bridge has already been crossed.)

For Flynn, one of Trump's most glaring failures concerns Jeffrey Epstein, the serial pedophile who likely trafficked minors to rich and powerful men while running a blackmail operation. On December 24, Flynn published a Substack calling for the "mass arrests of the upper crust sickos that did this stuff." He added, "There WILL NOT be two sets of rules in America. I don't [care] who these people are. It isn't about Epstein and democrats, it is about child sexual abuse by morally depraved psychopaths who think they rule the world."

Flynn understands what the Epstein hubbub is really about. It's a glimpse into the global elite club, a subculture that operates outside the laws that govern the rest of us.

Even after his conviction, Epstein communicated with power players who had at some point occupied positions in academia, media, tech, and government — people such as Larry Summers, Kathryn Ruemmler, Peter Thiel, Steve Bannon, Michael Wolff, Bill Gates, and others. These people were obviously not bothered by Epstein's deviancy, suggesting a value system very different from that of the regular, non-sociopathic general citizenry. Epstein is about an elite international power structure that does what it wants, conceals its repugnant acts, and treats the public like children.


USM-129 Individual Custody/Detention Report
LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
EPSTEIN, JEFFREY EDWARD
Part of the Epstein files released by the DOJ

AP Photo / Jon Elswick

Trump outright resisted Epstein transparency. Some believe he did it to protect people he knows or is somehow tied to. Others think Trump knew what Epstein was doing. The worst-case scenario is that the president might have participated.

One might argue in Trump's defense that he did sign a resolution on November 19 to force the Justice Department (DOJ) to release its Epstein files. That's true, but he did it reluctantly, after months of public outrage and throwing a fit over the issue. Moreover, Congress was shamed and pressured into passing the resolution as well. And worse, the DOJ has yet to fully comply. As of this writing, there's a treasure trove of documents that have yet to be released. After the January 30 files dump, the co-sponsors of the Epstein Transparency Act said the government was still withholding around three million documents that were supposed to be released. Also, the DOJ redacted some of the released files in ways that violated the law. On top of it all, they managed to further mess things up by releasing some of victims' names. In summary, except for accomplice Ghislaine Maxwell, no others have been held accountable for their involvement in, participation in, or coverup of Epstein's activity.

But there's more. Although Flynn didn't mention these specific grievances in his letter, what follows is a list of concerns many Trump voters have expressed. Flynn himself had touched on some of them in past comments.

No one has answered for the Russian collusion hoax, which targeted Trump in 2016. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard released some of the receipts last year. We know some of the Deep State actors involved: former CIA Director John Brennan, former FBI Director James Comey, former President Barack Obama, and others. We know the

Americans wanted *accountability.* And they wanted an end to the status quo. And unlike the job it's done on the border, many believe the Trump administration has failed on both those fronts.

Deep State essentially colluded with the Hillary Clinton campaign in a propaganda operation to obstruct Trump's presidency. Yet not a single conviction has resulted.

No one involved in Operation January 6 has been held accountable, either. There's credible evidence indicating that the FBI was somehow involved, that J6 was likely an operation designed to crush the America First movement, and that the J6 Committee was a political hit squad dressed up as a congressional investigatory unit.

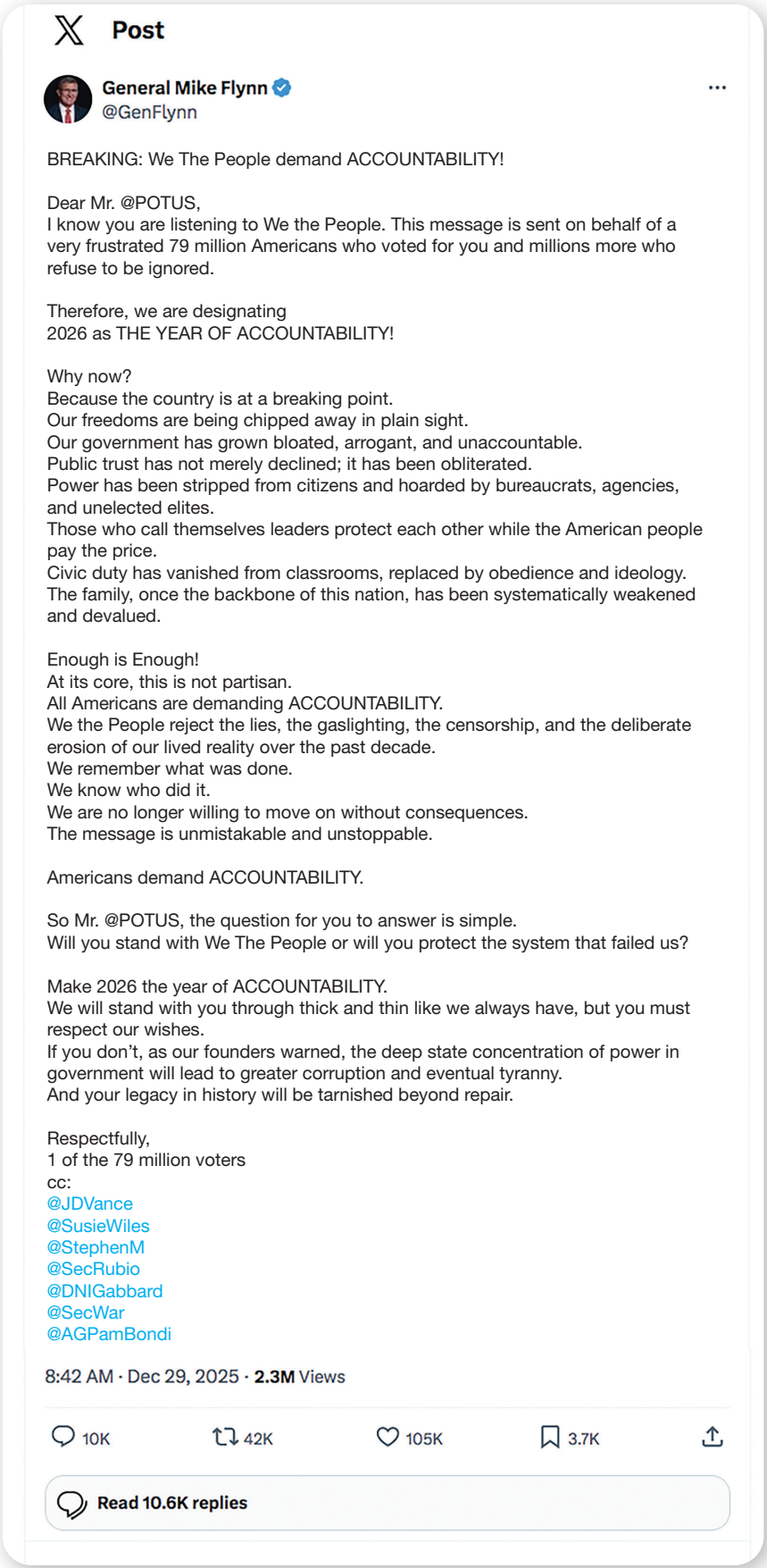
And no one has answered for 2020 election skulduggery. Trump believes that election was rigged, as does at least half the country. At the very least, American intel suppressed relevant information tied to Joe Biden, and election laws were violated across the nation. Investigators have uncovered a range of evidence indicating election chicanery in targeted swing-state districts. There are videos, testimonies, documentaries, and independent investigations. Yet no one has been held accountable. More importantly, election systems remain largely unchanged and vulnerable.

As for perpetuating our failing system, Trump has done just that. For starters, his administration has been as fiscally reckless as the others. His signature One Big Beautiful Bill, signed last year, is projected to raise the deficit by *at least* $3 trillion. The national debt is $38 trillion — and climbing by the second. And yet we continue spending at insane levels, including on foreign aid.

Speaking of foreign matters, many Trump voters desperately wanted the country's longstanding interventionist foreign policy reversed. Americans don't want to be an empire. But Trump is sticking to the neoconservative script. In the Middle East, he directed the military to bomb a foreign country that posed little to no danger to the U.S. homeland. Worse, he did it on behalf of a foreign nation. He believed Israeli intelligence about Iran's nuclear program over that of his own government.

As of this writing, the Pentagon was moving carrier strike groups into the region, suggesting another war on the horizon.

The president also has continued U.S. meddling in the Ukraine boondoggle. Selling weapons to Europe to give to Ukraine, continuing to provide Ukraine with U.S. intelligence, and leveling sanctions against Russia have only prolonged the war and increased the death toll he says he wants to end. We should not be involved in a war between two immensely corrupt nations



Post

General Mike Flynn
@GenFlynn

BREAKING: We The People demand ACCOUNTABILITY!

Dear Mr. @POTUS,
I know you are listening to We the People. This message is sent on behalf of a very frustrated 79 million Americans who voted for you and millions more who refuse to be ignored.

Therefore, we are designating
2026 as THE YEAR OF ACCOUNTABILITY!

Why now?
Because the country is at a breaking point.
Our freedoms are being chipped away in plain sight.
Our government has grown bloated, arrogant, and unaccountable.
Public trust has not merely declined; it has been obliterated.
Power has been stripped from citizens and hoarded by bureaucrats, agencies, and unelected elites.
Those who call themselves leaders protect each other while the American people pay the price.
Civic duty has vanished from classrooms, replaced by obedience and ideology.
The family, once the backbone of this nation, has been systematically weakened and devalued.

Enough is Enough!
At its core, this is not partisan.
All Americans are demanding ACCOUNTABILITY.
We the People reject the lies, the gaslighting, the censorship, and the deliberate erosion of our lived reality over the past decade.
We remember what was done.
We know who did it.
We are no longer willing to move on without consequences.
The message is unmistakable and unstoppable.

Americans demand ACCOUNTABILITY.

So Mr. @POTUS, the question for you to answer is simple.
Will you stand with We The People or will you protect the system that failed us?

Make 2026 the year of ACCOUNTABILITY.
We will stand with you through thick and thin like we always have, but you must respect our wishes.
If you don't, as our founders warned, the deep state concentration of power in government will lead to greater corruption and eventual tyranny.
And your legacy in history will be tarnished beyond repair.

Respectfully,
1 of the 79 million voters
cc:
@JDVance
@SusieWiles
@StephenM
@SecRubio
@DNIGabbard
@SecWar
@AGPamBondi

8:42 AM · Dec 29, 2025 · **2.3M** Views

10K 42K 105K 3.7K

Read 10.6K replies

AP Photo / Zach D Roberts / NurPhoto via AP

on the other side of the planet. Moreover, that war likely wouldn't have happened if America hadn't meddled in Ukraine in the first place.

And then there's Venezuela, where Trump ordered a military operation without asking for congressional approval. The upside is that he's the first president in modern history to be honest and say the whole thing was mostly about oil.

Were the Venezuela operation and the bombing of Iran acts of war? A good way to answer that question is to ask yourself: If another country took similar actions against us, would we declare it an act of war?

It is the exclusive purview of Congress to declare war. Yet Trump has continued the executive branch's long-standing pattern of war-powers abuse.

On January 14, Flynn suggested on the *Redacted* podcast that the neocons who've slithered into Trump's ear have intentionally lured him into a disastrous foreign policy. They know foreign meddling is a big turnoff to the MAGA base. The point is for Republicans to lose big in the midterm elections, which would notch a win for the Uniparty.

Flynn's letter to Trump was viewed at least two million times and received more than 10,000 responses. One commenter said it was important that Trump get the message, to which Flynn replied that he would make sure he does.

Suppose Trump reads the letter, or already has. Then what?

Judging from public comments, social-media posts, and news reports, the president is aware of the grievances mentioned in the letter — and beyond. One time he got so angry over the Epstein issue that he called his supporters "stupid people" for insisting on more information. Then he said he no longer wanted their support. At another point, he urged the attorney general to hold Deep State actors accountable.

Even a decade after entering politics, the president remains an enigma. His actions on the border, his undermining the green scam and pushing for reliable energy production, and his railing against the United Nations and defunding and/or pulling the United States out of many supranational organizations suggest a genuine desire to make America great. But the other issues we mentioned — excessive foreign meddling, reckless spending, and a lack of accountability for a litany of subversive operations — don't make America great. Hence Flynn's complaint.

In a way, what Flynn is doing illustrates, at least in part, why the nation keeps eroding. Obviously, the president wields a lot of power (too much). And he often single-handedly determines policies. But expecting him to deliver such a long list of national remedies seems like a recipe for disappointment.

America wasn't built to be run — or saved — by one man, and certainly not by unelected, entrenched government lifers, or by a network of corporate, nonprofit, and government elites or a combination of the aforementioned. The Framers created a government of law under the Constitution. But for that system to work, the people must exercise their designated position as the stewards of their government. Citizens need to know how their government is supposed to work and then ensure that it operates according to that design.

The best chance for true and lasting positive change resides not in Trump, but in a revival of patriotic civic engagement. That means education, organization, and participation. It works. A small example is what Representatives Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) and Ro Khanna (D-Calif.) were able to accomplish with the Epstein files. Sure, the people have yet to get everything they are owed, but the government was forced to do something it didn't want to do and deal with an issue it had tried to cover up for more than six months. The takeaway is that, with enough engagement and effort, the people can leverage immense pressure on Congress and the president. And out of that pressure will come results.

Imagine what can be accomplished with more education and engagement. We can elect more constitutionally minded legislators and force Congress and the executive branch to abide by the Constitution's limitations. We must, as a people, know the constitutional principles that our lawmakers are obligated to adhere to — and we must hold them accountable. Adherence to the Constitution is the key to national restoration. The John Birch Society exists to make this exact scenario a reality.

There are a lot of people with ideas about how to make America great again. Some are good; others not so much. There's also a whirlwind of noise, a lot of finger-pointing, a lot of drama, and a lot of supposed solutions. But instead of getting caught up in a spaghetti junction of tangents, arguments, and theories, we can accomplish a lot more by getting back to the Founders' original vision for this country. It has been proven to work. It is foolishness to put our trust in one man. No one is coming to save us. We are the cavalry. ■

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Heating Up the Marxist Ovens

Mamdani Promises the "Warmth of Collectivism"

AP Photo / Yuki Iwamura

AT A GLANCE

- New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani is an avowed socialist who believes in the "warmth of collectivism."
- The reality of socialism in China contrasts with the soothing rhetoric.
- Mamdani's power may be limited, unlike Mao's or Stalin's, but his policies will cause great damage in New York.

by Selwyn Duke

"My skin literally crawled," said the shocked New York City Council member in early January. What so shook Vickie Paladino, a rare Republican in the Big Apple Legislature, was a comment Mayor Zohran Mamdani made in his inaugural address. It was so eyebrow-raising, in fact, that an editor of mine at first thought it was satire.

Selwyn Duke has written for The New American *for more than a decade. He has also written for* The Hill, *Observer,* The American Conservative, *WorldNetDaily, American Thinker, and many other print and online publications.*

"We will replace the frigidity of rugged individualism," Mamdani said on Thursday, January 1, "with the warmth of collectivism." My, that's quite the New Year's resolution.

Oh, it's not as bad as stating, let's say, that your end goal is "seizing the means of production." Mamdani made that statement, too — while addressing supporters in 2021.

It all reflects how the new mayor certainly is historic, much as how the Great Chicago Fire, the fall of Rome, and the Black Plague were. Mamdani has become not just the youngest and the first Muslim, South Asian, and African-born New York City mayor, but also the first to be an avowed socialist and make that central to his campaign. Additionally, there was no other Big Apple head who'd been a noncitizen just seven to eight years before attaining power. And then there's his rhetorical ability.

Mamdani might not long ago have been a noncitizen, but he can't be accused of being a non-entity. As with Benito Mussolini, he's a remarkable orator, so syrupy smooth, smiley, and silver-tongued that his style can obscure his substance. Yet at least partially because he has had to appeal to the party that fueled his rise, the radical Democratic Socialists of America, he has often had to show his true colors. In fact, aside from the aforementioned communist dogmas, he has echoed another: that the "abolition of private property" is "preferable" to the status quo. This is, of course, part of collectivism, too — that of real estate.

Now, Mamdani's collectivism comment did inspire much conversation and controversy. Some observers were horrified, while others tried to justify. Consider, for instance, Bishop Robert Barron of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota. Aghast, he wrote on X January 2:

> Collectivism in its various forms is responsible for the deaths of at least one hundred million people in the last century. Socialist and Communist forms of government around the world today — Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea, etc. — are disastrous. Catholic social teaching has consistently condemned socialism and has embraced the market economy, which people like Mayor Mamdani

Artist's impression of New Harmony as proposed by Robert Owen

> caricature as "rugged individualism." In fact, it is the economic system that is based upon the rights, freedom, and dignity of the human person. For God's sake, spare me the "warmth of collectivism."

Responding to this was another self-identified clergyman who on X goes by "Fr. Paul." "Is the church not a community?" the priest tweeted. "Is individualism in relationship with Christ and with others not also the death of Christianity? Respectfully, your excellency, I think you're reading a bit too much into this." But is he?

The term "collectivism" certainly is in style. A chart on EtymOnline.com reveals that the word's frequency of use exploded during the Great Depression, peaking around 1940. It then began declining, reaching a 50-year low in about 1980. It subsequently started increasing again, and by 2019 (the chart ends there) usage frequency had surpassed even 1940 levels.

But in style or not, collectivism's origins are clear. The term, or its French equivalent, *collectivisme*, first emerged in the mid-19th century *in socialist and anarchist circles*. It was later popularized in Marxist and anarchist contexts. Quite simply, it is a communist word.

And Zohran Kwame Mamdani *is* a communist. When you speak approvingly of "collectivism," "seizing the means of production," and private-property abolition, well, as is said, "If it walks like a duck…" You know the rest.

Oh, Mamdani does call himself a "Democratic Socialist." Yet know here that communists often call themselves and their creations "socialist." Why, Russian Revolution author Vladimir Lenin primarily described himself and his faction as revolutionary socialists or "social democrats" while seeking power — and his dark creation, the USSR, stood for the Union of Soviet *Socialist* Republics.

And the Soviet Union, and socialism, essentially stands for something else, as well: failure. The ideology has a much longer history of such than many may suppose, too — going back to at least 1825. It was then that Scottish "reformer" Robert Owen, often called "The Father of English Socialism," instituted a collectivist commune in New Harmony, Indiana.

It was visibly failing, miserably, within 12 months, and began dissolving after just two years.

Unlike the 19th century's many religious communes, which sometimes endured for decades or even more than a century, the Owenite commune had neither the profit incentive *nor* the God incentive. Consequently and predictably, its "residents lacked the motivation to work," related the MacIver Institute in 2020, "while its government was unable to manage even the town's one general store." The Owenites' inability to manage a single store despite New Harmony having only 800-900 residents raises a question, too: How will Mayor Mamdani successfully manage government-run grocery stores (also on his agenda) in a metropolis of 8.48 million residents?

He won't, of course. City-run grocery stores have already failed (a couple were ultimately leased out to private entities) in places such as Baldwin, Florida, and Erie and St. Paul, Kansas. This, not to mention the interminable food lines and shortages in socialist/communist "utopias" such as the USSR and Venezuela.

The one virtue of Owen's experiment, however, is that it was voluntary — not so with what the world's Mamdanis have planned. It's ironic, too. Figures such as Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels acknowledged Owen as a key utopian socialist precursor. Yet instead of realizing that only his failure was scalable, they apparently supposed that some imaginary success was. And we've seen this movie before; we know the ending.

Just consider the story of Lily Tang Williams, who grew up in Communist China and experienced its tyranny and privation firsthand. What follows is part of her story, from a Heritage Foundation (HF) panel held in December 2021. (I've had to excerpt the most relevant parts due to space constraints. Note also that it's a verbatim transcript provided by HF, and partially in pidgin English.) As HF relates, Lily said:

> I was born in Chengdu, Sichuan

province right before Mao [Tse-tung] started the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. And my parents were illiterate workers. We should be the ... workers rule society. Everything's free, right? No, that's what our kids think today. It was not free except our horrible primitive workers' row house provided by my dad's state factory. Everybody work for state factory six days a week, and our community housing, probably nobody in this country wants to live in there. It's eight families with children share one bathroom. I share one water faucet. And if water is out, you cannot cook. It was very cold in the winter because the central planners in Beijing said, "After you live, if you live in south of Yellow River, no heating." So I had frostbite on my left foot. Every year I got infected because of the cold weather.

... They even control the songs you're going to see and what comedy you are allowed to tell. And the girls, boys were not allowed to talk about romantic love and to talk about, "Oh, I love my parents," because Chairman Mao is more dear.

... It's like a concentration camp. 6:30 in the morning.... Because my dad's community housing, it's next to my high school and middle school. So 6:30 in the morning, the speaker come up, "Time to wake up, time to go school, time to go work. Long live Chairman Mao. Long live the Communist Party."

The above is what socialists *don't* tell you when marketing their agenda. But then there's something that may sound familiar. As Lily stated a bit later:

> Mao divided people into two big groups like Marx did, oppressor versus oppressed.... Who are the oppressors? Landlord, rich capitalist, right [inaudible 00:07:04] and counter-revolutionaries and bad influencers. And who define those arbitrary words to put them under black classes? The party. Mao. 20 million people died during Mao's Cultural Revolution. Lots of them are professors, teachers, intellectuals who just dissident, represent different opinions about countries, policies and the propaganda every day.

Ah, "landlords." Mamdani has also targeted them, talking about "taking control back" from landlords. (Back? That implies government had control in the first place. What he really means is seizing their freedoms and, maybe, their property.) Even more alarming are comments made by his "tenant advocate" appointee, Cea Weaver. "Impoverish the 'white' middle class," she wrote on X in 2018. "Homeownership is racist" — "failed public policy." Though her own very white mother has a $1.4 million house, she has called home ownership "a weapon of white supremacy." "We'll transition from treating property as an individual good to a collective good," she further vowed. "Whites especially will be impacted." She could be very pithy, too, also writing in 2018, "Seize private property!"

But, wait, this racial focus isn't at all like the rhetoric of the Maoists, Soviets, or any other "traditional" communists, is it? Yet the difference is one of situation, not conviction. Chinese, Soviet, and other earlier socialists operated within relatively homogeneous nations, and racial/ethnic appeals are fruitless when most everyone is the same race and ethnicity. These lands were also relatively poor, however, with a great have/have-not divide, so the class-warfare card was ideal. In the United States today, we're relatively wealthy but also quite balkanized (aka "diverse"). So while class warfare still pays dividends ("No more billionaires!"), the race card is invaluable. The principle, though, is precisely the same: Demonize those possessing the wealth, whose *economic power you want for yourself*. Then you can justify expropriating those resources from "the top 10 percent" (and, ultimately, others) and transferring them to the top *one-tenth of one percent* — the government puppeteers.

Speaking of which brings us back to Lily's story. China's government puppeteers, she said, dictated that

> you cannot talk about other things. It's all about politics. It's all about PC. If I go to exercise, I have to write in my diary "I'm exercise today because Chairman Mao wants me to be healthy and serve the country." Think about that. Politics is in your face every day, and you are not human being. You are not allowed to ask questions. You're not think for yourselves.
>
> ... I was hungry. We had to live on food rationing coupons based on your parents' worker status inside of the state factory.... And my dad, even though he was a Communist Party member, but because he was illiterate, he cannot move up. And he was in China that time fighting his Communist Party bosses because they treated him like an animal, even though he's a worker. Supposed to be workers rule, right?
>
> That's what I'm saying to the young people today. They will put you up and sell you something. And the problem is free stuff, and they will never come. And instead, 95% of people, I will say, equally poor and equally enslaved.

Mamdani does call himself a "Democratic Socialist." Yet know here that communists often call themselves and their creations "socialist."

Lily mentioned, too, that her conditioning ran deep. It "took me 20 years in this free country [America] to get rid of all my indoctrination, to say my own old government lied to me," she confessed. "And I even did not know 40 million people died of starvation because of their central planning policies." Lily then issued a challenge to Americans:

> I summarized 12 features [of] Mao's Cultural Revolution on my Facebook, Lily 4 Liberty. You can judge yourself those 12 features, Mao's tactics and features are so similar with today what is ... going on on American soil, including looting, burning, changing names, censorship, cancel culture, self-censorship. And you can be losing your job and business by your past words, by your past deeds. And neighbors, families, the divisioning of society. It's very, very scary.

Lily, though, was downright blessed compared to some of communism's other victims. Just consider the story of Xhemal Kaloshi, arrested in 1947 in communist Albania with, as he put it, no "explanation, no crime, no warrant." He wrote, related the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in December:

> When my turn came, I was thrown into a basement, tied, without food or bedding. The following day I faced the chief of security. "Confess your crimes," he ordered. I had none. My denial enraged him. He kicked me so hard in the shin that I collapsed unconscious on the concrete floor. That blow nearly shattered my leg, and for hours I lay close to death. But I refused to sign the confession he had prepared.
>
> At my trial, the verdict was already written. Witnesses, pressed or bribed, testified against me. I was labeled a fascist, a collaborator, a propagandist.… I was guilty not of deeds, but of existing in a political system that needed enemies.
>
> From prison, I was transported with thousands of other prisoners to the swamp fields of Maliq, (a small town in southeast Albania, not too far from Lake Ohrid) to the labor camp of Vllocisht modeled after the concentration camp of Dachau in Germany. It was a camp designed not to reform nor re-educate prisoners, but to crush, a camp where survival was the only victory. There, human life was treated as expendable material, useful only so long as it could dig canals and marshes through mud. This was forced labor.
>
> The conditions defy imagination. We were forced to work from Monday-Saturday between the hours of 4:00a.m.-7:00p.m., barefoot, clad in rags, freezing in the highland cold. Tools were scarce and broken; often we tore at the swamp with our bare hands. The mud cut our flesh, thorns shredded our skin, and lice swarmed over our bodies. Later, the authorities set quotas: each man was to dig five cubic meters of earth daily. Those who lagged were beaten and tortured mercilessly.

Public Domain

If anything, Kaloshi's story only gets worse from there, too. Oh, by the way, the man's country would eventually take on the name the People's *Socialist* Republic of Albania.

Despite all this, socialism continues winning converts to this day. What's in a word? Much, and "socialism" sounds, well, social. (It may seem silly, but branding is effective for a reason.) Moreover, the socialist siren call is seductive precisely because it presents a truth, but socialism fails because it doesn't present *The* Truth. That is, it peddles truths out of context, without the other truths that would provide balance.

Consider Mamdani's entire collectivism-warmth passage. If Big Apple communities have for too long "existed as distinct from one another, we will draw this city closer together," he promised. "We will replace the frigidity of rugged individualism with the warmth of collectivism. If ... the people of New York yearn for solidarity, then let this government foster it." Now, it actually was fine that the mayor mentioned "solidarity." Note here that a movement by that name in 1980s Poland was anti-communist (and was persecuted by Mamdani's ideological forebears).

Solidarity is, in fact, a *Christian* principle. Yet something was missing from the mayor's appeal. It's the same thing socialists/communists always omit, and it reminds me of what G.K. Chesterton noted in his 1908 book *Orthodoxy*. In the modern world, the philosopher warned, the "Christian virtues ... have gone mad because they have been isolated from each other and are wandering alone. Thus some scientists care for truth; and their truth is pitiless. Thus some humanitarians only care for pity; and their pity (I am sorry to say) is often untruthful."

Likewise, it's not just that, as good theology informs, "solidarity" merely means working together for a common good; it doesn't necessarily imply government involvement (unlike collectivism). It's also that it's meant to be balanced by *subsidiarity*, a Christian principle dictating that decisions and actions must occur at the

Zohran Mamdani and Cea Weaver (right)

AP Photo / Michael Appleton

lowest appropriate level (e.g., individual, family, local community). Put simply, you don't escalate to the central government what the locals can accomplish, or to municipal authorities that which is the family's domain. But this isn't what Mamdani believes. As he said in his victory speech in November, "We will prove that there is no problem too large for government to solve, and no concern too small for it to care about." Translation: No issue is little enough to not be big government's business. (What's more, he also tacitly deified government there, as only an omnipotent, omniscient entity could solve *any and every* problem.)

Really, though, some may wonder, aren't these warnings a bit fevered? Mamdani won't be the next Stalin, Mao, or Pol Pot. But don't confuse will with means; while the mayor will be limited by representative institutions, we can't read his heart and mind. We do know, however, that he and his comrades would take socialism national. We can also know that because "Socialism requires extensive government control, it naturally expands state power at the expense of individual rights," as the Adam Smith Institute wrote last year. "Tyranny is not an accidental by-product of Socialism; it lies at its very core. It is in its DNA."

It's important to fully explain, too, why this state control is necessary: Socialists are literally trying to trump nature without any moral imperative for doing so. That is, socialism demands equality, but nature's default is *inequality*. To analogize it, imagine you tried thwarting the animal kingdom's inherent hierarchies, such as a lion ruling his pride. The extreme control and invasive intervention necessary to even attempt this would be staggering. You could try suppressing the cat's testosterone levels while injecting the females with the hormone; you could drug him into docility. But then another male would attempt a coup, so you'd have to try controlling lions beyond the pride as well. Who knows, too, what effects this meddling would have on the cats' social structure, mating, and birth rates. For certain is that the whole silly affair would wreak havoc while not achieving equality at all.

As for man's family, left to their own devices people will naturally produce, buy, and sell — and be *unequal*. And as with the lions, trying to overturn this default, operative among 344 million Americans, requires serious coercion. There isn't even a moral imperative justifying it, either, unlike with what we call crimes. When that priority exists, as with murder, rape, and theft — which would come "naturally" to *some* people — the tamping down of this dark nature works (mostly) because the majority welcome the intervention. Even so, consider the resources necessary to quell crime and how heavy-handed we sometimes need be with miscreants. We literally often enforce compliance at the end of a gun.

Trying to thwart inequality, which is accepted or even welcomed by most, means the quasi-criminalization of every person's default nature. Only a big, intrusive government could even attempt such an undertaking — and fail in the biggest way imaginable.

Moreover, socialism would falter even with the very best intentions. This can perhaps be explained well with the story of New Jersey's single-use plastic-bag ban, which, of course, was meant to reduce plastic waste. Well, after the law took effect in 2022, plastic use intended for bag creation *increased* 300 percent. Why? Because the "reusable" bags require 15 times as much plastic to produce, but Garden State residents don't use them 15 times as much on average.

Perhaps this should have been foreseen, but this gets at the problem. As economist Thomas Sowell has pointed out, most people have expertise in only a narrow range of endeavor. Politicians are no exception (they couldn't even foresee New Jersey's plastic-law problem). Now, could you imagine them trying to run even one supermarket (lookin' at you, Mamdani), a business that on average stocks 30,000-40,000 items from the world over? How much of a given product should you order? Which ones should be discontinued or introduced? Now multiply this by the tens of thousands of supermarkets nationwide, and that by the more than a thousand types of businesses in America. The complexity is staggering, and no government bureaucracy could hold a candle in this arena to the "invisible hand of the market." I mean, would you trust even advanced artificial intelligence with such a herculean task?

Now you know why Russia went from being the world's largest wheat exporter in 1910 under the tsar to, eventually, one of the largest grain *importers* under the communists. And you know why Lily Tang Williams, like so many of socialism's victims, had no heat in winter. It's called "the warmth of collectivism." ■

The Great Taking
Global Looting of Humanity Imminent?

AP Photo / Richard Drew

AT A GLANCE

- Ownership of securities has been diluted by changes in contract law.
- In the event of insolvency of any broker, custodian, or clearing structure holding securities owned by the public, creditors — not their actual owners — will be given first dibs on those securities.
- In the event of financial systemic failure, bailing out government-backed megabanks will take priority over individual retirement funds.
- The "Great Taking" will be as much a political event as a financial one, and will lead to serfdom for those who have been taken.

by Alex Newman

When the globalist World Economic Forum (WEF) predicted in 2015 that "you will own nothing and be happy" by 2030, people worldwide recoiled in horror at the thought, but almost nobody understood the mechanism by which it might take place. Now, thanks to brave whistleblowers and attorneys, the plan to seize virtually everything is plain to see. The real question at this point is: Can it be stopped before it's too late?

If the WEF's Great Reset is the marketing campaign for global "transformation," what retired investment banker David Webb calls the "Great Taking" is the legal and financial machinery designed to make the transformation unavoidable. The plan involves ending private-property rights in securities — stocks, bonds, and other financial instruments — to allow megabanks allied with governments to take everything when the next crisis hits.

In essence, you no longer own your securities; the deed has already been done. The stocks and bonds in your retirement and investment accounts might seem like they are yours. But thanks to little-noticed changes in state laws going back decades, they actually are not. And when a major economic and financial cataclysm strikes, the Deep State establishment and the governments and megabanks it controls will take everything from you.

If the scheme is not stopped, the World Economic Forum's prediction that "you will own nothing" could become a reality in the not-too-distant future. Imagine ownership and control of every publicly traded company in the hands of a tiny, megalomaniacal elite. And this plan is not just for the United States, but for the world.

Webb, who with a book and docu-

Alex Newman is a senior editor of The New American, *and author of* Deep State: The Invisible Government Behind the Scenes *and* Indoctrinating Our Children to Death.

mentary that went viral first blew the whistle on the scheme to steal all securities, explains the operation in terms any non-finance person can understand. For centuries, stocks and bonds were treated as personal property, which insulated the public from failures inside the financial system.

"For hundreds of years … securities were your property," he explained to this writer during a 2025 interview. "If the banker or the custodian failed … that was entirely their problem." Historically, the investor could simply tell those holding the securities, "Here's where you send my stuff." But that "bulletproof" protection is now gone, he warned.

In fact, even the direct record of ownership has been severed. Securities are now held in pooled form. And what investors possess is not ownership, but a legal abstraction. "You no longer have a property right — you have what's called a security entitlement," warned Webb.

Right now, that might not seem very important. After all, you can still call your broker, put in a sell order, and receive your cash. But when the next crisis hits — and many experts and economists believe it could be just around the corner — the significance of this change will be clear.

The concept was first embedded into American law through amendments adopted across the states beginning in 1994. In short, through seemingly minor changes to commercial and contract law adopted quietly nationwide, Americans were stripped of their property rights to their securities.

The practical consequence is stark. "If the intermediary ... fails, you have no right to take your property back," Webb explained.

How It Works

Attorney Don Grande — founder of TruNorth Public Policy and one of the principal leaders working with state legislators to reverse the change — puts the mechanism in sharper legal terms. The foundation of the plan, he says, is state law, specifically Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Article 8, which governs investment securities.

While written to *sound* as if it leaves ownership intact, Grande explains, it contains "two exceptions that give banks priority in the event of insolvency of a broker or a custodian." In calm times, the language reassures. In crisis, those exceptions control outcomes. The schemes have already been tested in court, too.

Grande describes the chain plainly: An individual buys stock through a broker and believes he owns it. But instead of genuine ownership, he gets "a security entitlement," he says, using the legal term now embedded in state law. That "security entitlement" entitles one to control over the security, until it doesn't.

The broker routes custody upward through layers until the asset sits at the apex of the system with a shadowy outfit called the "Depository Trust Company" (DTC) and its designated agent.

If a broker, custodian, or clearing structure fails, priority shifts: The first exception "gives … banks that lend to brokers or custodians priority over the investor," warned Grande. "The second … gives [lenders] to clearing corporations … priority over the investor in the event of insolvency."

In other words, the public stands in line behind secured creditors when it matters most.

This does not seem like a big deal as long as the economy is dealing with routine market gains and losses. But in the event of systemic failure and a cascade of insolvencies, those seemingly obscure rules governing legal priority are triggered — and saving the government-backed megabanks takes priority over saving your retirement.

Webb summarizes the reality bluntly: Investors are "always vulnerable to insolvency of the intermediary and [have] no right to take back their property."

Grande calls it "essentially a too-big-to-fail law," engineered for collapse. The intent was explicit: The drafter of the provision called it "Armageddon Planning for the Financial Sector."

An interesting twist to this story of Deep State subversion goes back to a key figure in laying the groundwork for it all. The DTC, which selected its agent "Cede & Co." to serve as the registered "owner" of almost all U.S. securities (yes, really), was literally created and run by former CIA operative William Dentzer. Dentzer also served as architect of the disgraced "foreign aid" agency USAID, long considered a CIA front.

The beneficiaries are predictable: the Deep State money men and the institutions they own and control. As Grande explained to this writer during an episode of *Conversations That Matter* for *The New American*, "the banks that own Depository Trust Company, which is JPMorgan Chase and all the too-big-to-fails … are the ones that are going to be able to … hoover up all the securities of the individuals" when the next crisis hits. The public is left with claims on leftovers — if anything remains.

To cut through the complex legal and financial jargon, South Dakota Representative Julie Auch (R), the first lawmaker to file a bill to fix this mess in any state, offered an analogy during an interview with this writer on *Conversations That Matter*: Imagine you take your car to a mechanic;

If the scheme is not stopped, the World Economic Forum's prediction that "you will own nothing" could become a reality in the not-too-distant future.

AP Photo / Sven Hoppe / picture-alliance / dpa

the mechanic secretly uses your car as collateral; the mechanic goes broke; and creditors seize what you thought was your car.

Webb agrees that the analogy fits. But the reality is even worse because it is global and hidden. It is a pawn operation you never agreed to enter: "Your property is being pawned…. You haven't given permission…. Someone else is taking your property and pawning it."

This is why Webb insists the Great Taking is not merely financial, but political. "It's not just about your IRA.… This is about subjugation.… It is a geopolitical strategy … essentially a hybrid war," he said. The objective is not that the cartel *needs* your savings; it is that you cannot retain independent resources.

Grande also put it plainly: "It's not that JPMorgan Chase needs my 401(k) or my IRA…. They just can't let me have it," he said. "They want to take property … so that we are essentially slaves." Strip the middle class of savings and collateral, and the "solution" becomes irresistible. Webb agrees that the end point is a central bank digital currency and total control.

Imagine a financial panic, similar in some ways to the hysteria over Covid manufactured by bureaucrats, governments, and international organizations. With everybody terrified about their money, political leaders and media talking heads might come on TV to "reassure" the public amid a bank holiday.

"Everything is under control," they might say. "To avoid a bigger economic crisis, banks will be on holiday for a while. But for now, you can download an app that will have some central bank digital currency on it so you can continue shopping for needed essentials. Trust the government, everything will be fine." By the time the dust settles, all securities will have been seized to prop up the system.

You might think fixing this would be simple. But the reaction when lawmakers attempt to restore basic property rights exposes the stakes. Grande describes facing what he calls "the Twin Towers of Mordor": "the bank lobby and the Uniform Law Commission." Both outfits have dismissed concerns publicly while exerting pressure privately. Committee rooms fill with lobbyists; vague warnings of "negative consequences" appear; specifics evaporate when challenged.

In an interview with *The New American*, Representative Auch described how her bill — crafted to protect investors' property rights from the Great Taking — was deliberately sent to a committee to die. After she educated colleagues on the mechanics of the scheme and found broad support, she said, powerful forces worked behind the scenes to halt the effort.

The pattern matched what Webb and Grande shared with this writer: When the merits could not be defeated, procedure and pressure were used to kill reform quietly. Multiple lawmakers have described similar scenarios in their own states as they sought to restore property ownership over securities.

That response should tell Americans everything they need to know. Legitimate, constitutional systems, statutes, and structures do not require silence, threats, or procedural burial to survive. Schemes built for looting and subjugating the public do. The incentives are now in place and easy to see. For global banking elites, crashing the system and seizing everything is now in their own best interest, especially as the instability of the Federal Reserve's fiat monetary system grows.

Technically, this would not be the first time the government and megabanks conspired on a "Great Taking." In the midst of the Fed-created "Great Depression," President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued his infamous 1933 "Executive Order 6102." The unconstitutional decree required that Americans surrender their gold, supposedly to stabilize the banking system. In exchange, they received paper — and those notes were promptly devalued by 40 percent.

The next heist may make FDR's looting seem trivial by comparison. The Great Taking, it seems, is now the Great Reset's financial endgame in legal form: a vulnerability embedded in custody and settlement rules — activated in crisis — to dispossess the public and force total dependence while wiping out the middle class. The schemes have already been tested in state and federal courts during financial crises of recent decades. And now, the establishment is ready for widespread theft as soon as the right economic meltdown hits.

This is, plainly, neo-feudalism, updated for the digital age: not the abolition of ownership by decree, but the conversion of ownership into a conditional "entitlement," revocable when the oligarchy decides the system "needs" what you thought was yours. The end result will be that, as the World Economic Forum predicted, "you will own nothing" — at least if these diabolical economic traps are not exposed and stopped. How they might make you "happy" is another question entirely. ■

QUICK QUOTES

"The developers could still build if they can find a buyer for the power, but ECOS and the California Native Plant Society are maintaining their lawsuit to void the special use permit approved by the County."
After a developer canceled plans for a controversial energy project that would remove nearly 3,500 old-growth oaks to make way for solar panels, **Heather Fargo***, former mayor and current chair of the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS), assured local media that protesters would remain vigilant.*

"This really makes the analogy of the fallen Roman Republic and the failing Roman Empire and the fallen American Republic and the failing American empire — it looks exactly like what it's doing to prop up the failing American empire. So we see the force projection into Venezuela, and unfortunately ... into Iran because we're doing Israel's bidding."
Retired U.S. Army Major **Jeffrey Prather***, a former military intelligence agent, said the quiet part out loud on the* SGT Report *podcast in January.*

"It's not talked about yet, but it's soon to come out, that he [Epstein] was a CIA informant…. He was an asset for the United States and Israel, for the CIA…. There's never been an instance where Trump was on a plane with these kids and a rape occurred. But that can't be said for Clinton, and it can't be said for others."
An undercover journalist with O'Keefe Media Group recorded **Glenn Prager***, senior Department of Justice Epstein investigator, discussing the case.*

"This subpoena was voted on in a bipartisan manner by this committee in a unanimous vote. He did not show up today. We will move next week in the House Oversight Committee markup to hold former president Bill Clinton in contempt of Congress."
Representative **James Comer** *(R-Ky.) addressed the press regarding his committee's investigations into the Jeffrey Epstein probe.*

"I accept Jesus Christ as my lord and savior, and look forward to spending an eternity with him. The part about me not being a believer should be quickly resolved if I wake up in heaven. I won't need any more convincing than that. I hope I am still qualified for entry."
Dilbert *cartoonist* **Scott Adams** *penned a "Final Message" prior to his death in January.*

"That's not my number [the amount of fraud]. That's the General Accounting Office. So it's about 10 percent of the federal budget — one to two percent of GDP."
U.S. Treasury Secretary **Scott Bessent** *appeared on the* Rufo & Lomez *podcast to discuss the $300 billion to $600 billion in federal subsidy fraud that takes place annually in the United States.*

"In Anthony Fauci's communications, we now have evidence that he was telling people, like [former National Institutes of Health Director] Francis Collins, 'Read this and destroy it.' You can't do that. The executive branch, when they communicate, they're required to keep their communications."
On The Joe Rogan Experience *podcast, Senator* **Rand Paul** *(R-Ky.) discussed the inactivity of the Trump administration against Anthony Fauci.*

— Compiled by Rebecca Terrell

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Trump Strikes Major Blow to Globalism.

Will It Last?

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AT A GLANCE

- On January 7, Trump issued a memorandum directing U.S. withdrawal from international organizations and agreements "contrary to the interests of the United States."
- Among the 66 affected entities, 31 are UN affiliates.
- The most consequential withdrawal is from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.
- Trump does not favor getting the United States out of the UN altogether, and has supported some UN programs.

by Peter Rykowski

Since its creation in 1945, the United Nations has been steadily eroding American independence while expanding its own power on the road to achieving its original purpose: world government. In the face of these globalist assaults on national sovereignty, most American leaders either turned a blind eye or welcomed them, rarely pushing back. In January, however, President Donald Trump took the biggest step since the UN's establishment to restore American sovereignty, ordering the United States' withdrawal from 66 international organizations and agreements, including key elements of the UN's climate regime.

Although Trump's order is indeed significant and historic, it is merely a first step. To restore American independence fully and permanently, Congress must follow up by getting the United States out of the UN system entirely — and Americans must put pressure on their congressmen to act.

Trump's Memorandum

On January 7, Trump signed a memorandum titled "Withdrawing the United States from International Organizations, Conventions, and Treaties that Are Contrary to the Interests of the United States," which directs his administration to "take immediate steps to effectuate the withdrawal of the United States" from 66 international organizations and agreements that, according to a White House press release, "operate contrary to U.S. national interests, security, economic prosperity, or sovereignty." The memorandum clarifies that these organizations and agreements will also lose U.S. funding.

The affected entities include 31 affiliated with the United Nations, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, International Law Commission, Peacebuilding Commission, UN Democracy Fund, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN Population Fund, and UN Register of Conventional Arms. It also includes 35 entities not directly affiliated with the UN, including the 24/7 Carbon-Free Energy Compact, Commission for Environmental Cooperation, Global Forum on Migration and Development, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, and Partnership for Atlantic Cooperation.

In a statement, Secretary of State Marco Rubio declared:

> The Trump Administration has found these institutions to be redundant in their scope, mismanaged, unnecessary, wasteful, poorly run, captured by the interests of actors advancing their own agendas contrary to our own, or a threat to our nation's sovereignty, freedoms, and general prosperity. President Trump is clear: It is no longer acceptable to be sending these institutions the blood, sweat, and treasure of the American people, with little to nothing to show for it. The days of billions of dollars in taxpayer money

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Although Trump's order is indeed significant and historic, it is merely a first step. To restore American independence fully and permanently, Congress must follow up by getting the United States out of the UN system entirely.

flowing to foreign interests at the expense of our people are over.

In a subsequent statement on the State Department's Substack, Rubio noted that the memorandum "does not mean America is turning its back on the world. We are simply rejecting an outdated model of multilateralism — one that treats the American taxpayer as the world's underwriter for a sprawling architecture of global governance." He also clarified that "those [entities] we are withdrawing from are by no means the only offenders. Our review of United States participation in international organizations remains ongoing."

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued a statement expressing disappointment over Trump's memorandum, claiming that all UN members have "a legal obligation" to fund the global body and ominously declaring, "The United Nations has a responsibility to deliver for those who depend on us. We will continue to carry out our mandates with determination."

Trump's memorandum sets in motion the process for withdrawing from all the listed organizations and agreements, which won't necessarily take effect immediately. For example, American withdrawal from the UNFCCC will take effect one year after the U.S. government formally notifies the UN of its decision. Nonetheless, Trump's order is the most significant action by the United States — or any country — since the UN's creation in 1945 to reverse the encroachment of "global governance" on national sovereignty.

UN Climate Withdrawal

Of the 66 entities that the United States will withdraw from under Trump's memorandum, the UNFCCC is the most significant. Adopted in 1992 at the UN's Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro — which also produced the UN's infamous Agenda 21 — the UNFCCC is the underlying mechanism for the UN's entire climate agenda, including its annual Conference of the Parties (COP) summits and subsequent agreements such as the Paris Agreement.

The UN's radical climate agenda was on full display at its COP30 climate-change conference in Belém, Brazil, late last year, which *The New American* covered on the ground with senior editor Alex Newman and contributor Andrew Muller. Writing about the conference in the January issue of *TNA*, Newman noted that "Trump could deal a devastating blow to the agenda by simply withdrawing from the UNFCCC and defunding it all." By doing just that in his January 7 memorandum, the president has taken a major step toward hindering the UN's ability to impose its climate agenda on the United States.

Simon Stiell, the executive secretary of the UNFCCC, issued a scathing statement in response to Trump's memorandum, claiming, "While all other nations are stepping forward together, this latest step back from global leadership, climate cooperation and science can only harm the US economy, jobs and living standards, as wildfires, floods, megastorms and droughts get rapidly worse. It is a colossal own goal which will leave the US less secure and less prosperous." Stiell did not explain how adopting draconian government regulations in the name of preventing climate change would benefit the "economy, jobs and living standards" more than adhering to free-market policies.

Climate realists, on the other hand, praised Trump's decision. For example, Marc Morano, a prominent skeptic of the "climate change" narrative, wrote on ClimateDepot.com that by withdrawing the United States from the UNFCCC, Trump "has finally freed America from this 34-year-old UN climate terror campaign" and has "injected permanence into keeping the failing UN climate agenda from rising from the ashes again."

With Trump's memorandum, the United

AP Photo / Sipa USA via AP / Graeme Sloan

States — one of the first countries to sign the UNFCCC in 1992 — will become the first and only nation to ever withdraw from the treaty, and the only UN member state to not be a party to it.

Trump's Previous Actions

Trump's memorandum is not his or his administration's first action to withdraw the United States from international organizations or reject UN initiatives. It actually follows up on an executive order that Trump signed on February 4, 2025, withdrawing the United States from the UN Human Rights Council, defunding the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and reviewing U.S. membership in the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) specifically and all other international organizations generally. (On July 22, 2025, the State Department announced the United States' withdrawal from UNESCO.)

Additionally, on Trump's first day back in office, he signed executive orders withdrawing the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO) and Paris Agreement, as well as a memorandum threatening to oppose the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Global Tax Deal. And in July 2025, Rubio and Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. announced the United States' formal rejection of the WHO's 2024 amendments to the International Health Regulations, ensuring they would have no force or effect in the country.

The Trump administration also formally denounced the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In a UN meeting on March 4, 2025, Edward Heartney, counselor for economic and social affairs at the U.S. Mission to the UN, declared that "the United States rejects and denounces the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, and will no longer reaffirm them as a matter of course." And upon announcing the United States' withdrawal from UNESCO, State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce called the Sustainable Development Goals "a globalist, ideological agenda … at odds with our America First foreign policy."

In October 2025, the administration forced the UN's International Maritime Organization to postpone a proposed global carbon tax on shipping. It also temporarily paused funding for the World Trade Organization (WTO), and continues to block the appointment of members to its Appellate Body, effectively paralyzing the bloc's ability to enforce its rules.

Trump's January 7 memorandum, however, arguably is his administration's most significant action yet — and the most significant action of any president since the United States helped found the UN in 1945 — to reassert U.S. sovereignty and push back against globalist organizations that threaten American independence and promote collectivist and globalist policies.

Altogether, the second Trump administration has formally announced U.S. withdrawal from or defunding of about 70 international organizations or agreements in its first year, far exceeding the first Trump administration, which withdrew from fewer than 10 in four years.

Mixed Messages

Despite these actions, Trump has also expressed support for a strengthened UN. For example, at his address to the UN General Assembly on September 23, 2025, he implied support for a more powerful UN system, declaring that the globalist body "has such tremendous, tremendous potential, but it's not even coming close to living up to that potential. For the most part, at least for now, all they seem to do is write a really strongly worded letter and then never follow that letter up. It's empty words, and empty words don't solve war." And in a January 31, 2026 interview with Politico, Trump more explicitly voiced support for the UN, declaring that "the U.N. is not leaving New York, and it's not leaving the United States, because the U.N. has tremendous potential."

Also in 2025, Trump expressed support for "enforc[ing] the Biological Weapons Convention" and stated his hope that "the UN can play a constructive role" in this effort. And following his address, he told Guterres during a meeting that "our country is behind the United Nations 100 percent." Trump has also repeatedly expressed support for NATO — a subsidiary of the United Nations — including Article 5, which obliges the United States to go to war if another NATO member is attacked.

In November 2025, Trump praised the UN Security Council for voting to create a Board of Peace, which he was selected to chair, to oversee the peace process in Gaza and work to achieve peace elsewhere in the world. The board's charter describes it as "an international organization" that "shall undertake such peace-building functions in accordance with international law," and in letters sent to other heads of state in January inviting them to join the body, Trump claimed it would serve "as a new International Organization and Transitional Governing Administration." At

AP Photo / Evan Vucci

the board's signing ceremony on January 22, 2026, he stated that it would work "in conjunction with the United Nations."

These statements indicate that despite Trump's actions opposing the UN and other international organizations, he is not fundamentally opposed to them, and even supports granting them greater power over nation-states. For this reason, it is essential that Congress solidify Trump's January 7 memorandum and take even more extensive action to restore U.S. sovereignty.

Get US Out!

Although Trump's memorandum is a major victory for U.S. sovereignty, it might only be temporary if Congress does not act. For example, a future president may attempt to rejoin some or all of the international organizations and agreements that Trump withdrew from, or otherwise entangle the United States more deeply in the UN system. Additionally, as long as the United States remains a member of the United Nations itself, the globalist body will continue to wage war against U.S. sovereignty. Accordingly, Congress must enact legislation to permanently withdraw the United States from the UN and all other international organizations.

Legislation has been introduced in the current (119th) Congress to get the United States out of the entire UN system. The Disengaging Entirely From the United Nations Debacle (DEFUND) Act of 2025 (H.R. 1498 and S. 669) is sponsored by Representative Chip Roy (R-Texas) and Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah). The House companion currently has 17 co-sponsors, while the Senate companion has two co-sponsors. If enacted, the DEFUND Act would fully withdraw the United States from all UN entities, completely defund the globalist body, and prevent a U.S. president from unilaterally rejoining it.

Although the DEFUND Act is the most comprehensive legislation, other bills to withdraw the United States from international organizations have also been introduced in the current Congress, including:

- H.R. 54, the WHO Withdrawal Act, sponsored by Representative Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.), which would codify Trump's order withdrawing the United States from the WHO;
- House Joint Resolution 93, sponsored by Representative Tom Tiffany (R-Wis.), which would withdraw the United States from the WTO; and
- H.R. 6508 and S. 2174, the Not A Trusted Organization (NATO) Act, sponsored by Representative Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) and Senator Lee, respectively, which would withdraw the United States from NATO.

Enacting any of these bills would amount to a major restoration of American independence, loosening it from the grip of globalism.

JBS Efforts

Both Trump's memorandum and the anti-UN legislation in Congress reflect the influence of The John Birch Society's longtime campaign to "*Get US Out!* of the UN." From the start, JBS has been leading the effort to reclaim American independence from the clutches of globalist organizations such as the UN. For example, at the JBS's founding meeting in December 1958, founder Robert Welch warned of a conspiracy "to induce the gradual surrender of American sovereignty, piece by piece and step by step, to various international organizations — of which the United Nations is the outstanding but far from the only example." Just over three years later, Welch announced the JBS's official "*Get US Out!*" campaign in the January 1962 JBS *Bulletin*, declaring that "the United Nations should not be reformed, but abolished."

The JBS's campaign has been bearing fruit. In the early 1980s, U.S. Representative Larry McDonald (D-Ga.) — who also served as chairman of The John Birch Society — introduced the United Nations Termination Act, which eventually evolved into the current DEFUND Act. When reporting on Lee's introduction of the latter bill in 2023, *The Salt Lake Tribune* wrote that Lee used "some of the same arguments to support the bill that the far-right John Birch Society first employed." Additionally, an increasing number of state legislatures — including in Alabama, Louisiana, Montana, Oklahoma, and Tennessee — have enacted legislation explicitly taking aim at the UN and its related organizations and initiatives, and state executive-branch officials have countered UN initiatives such as the now-defunct Net-Zero Banking Alliance.

In order to continue this momentum and achieve full withdrawal from the UN, it is essential that ordinary Americans take vigilant, persistent action by calling their U.S. representative and senators, meeting with their state and local elected officials, and educating influencers and other fellow citizens to create broader understanding of the need to exit the UN. These actions are most effective when done in a concerted manner via a nationwide organization — and The John Birch Society, with its steadfast support for U.S. sovereignty, is the logical vehicle to accomplish this.

At the JBS's founding meeting, Welch emphasized that "we need disciplined pullers at the oars, and not passengers in the boat." It's ultimately up to us — through building an educated electorate and influencing our elected officials — to ensure that our leaders uncompromisingly defend our Republic and God-given rights. Will you take action? Get started at JBS.org. ■

The Economics (and Politics) of Climate Change

AP Photos / Joshua A. Bickel

AT A GLANCE

- "Global warming" and "climate change" have been deceptively conflated.
- Advocates of radical climate-change policies minimize or ignore the "social cost of carbon."
- The oft-touted 1.5°C target ceiling is nonsensical and would require draconian measures to implement.
- None of the climate projections are actually catastrophic, and economic models forecast much more prosperity than calamity in 2100.

by Robert P. Murphy

The January 2026 issue of this magazine featured extensive coverage of the 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change — "COP30" for short. To supplement the excellent analyses, allow me in the present article to share some highlights from my own experience regarding the economics of climate change. As senior economist for the Institute for Energy Research from 2007 to 2020, I saw firsthand how the climate debate morphed over time.

Specifically, during my time working in this arena I saw the widening chasm between what the peer-reviewed articles established and what the climate activists claimed on behalf of the "settled science." As I'll document with examples in this article, although the average fan of "saving the environment" might mean well, the organized activists and intellectuals often have an anti-capitalist agenda, which is conveniently served by the hysteria over climate change.

I am quite familiar with the numerous problems with the more alarmist claims regarding climate change. It was frankly absurd to read scientists with a straight face discussing how to tweak the average global temperature in the year 2100 when I could read that there was still fierce professional disagreement over the modeling of *clouds*. Moreover, inasmuch as carbon is the basis of life, it always struck me as interesting that there was a large overlap between organizations and activists that thought the planet had too many people, and who also wanted punitive government action against carbon in its various forms.

There are numerous ways that humanity could rapidly restrict greenhouse-gas emissions and/or absorb carbon dioxide already in the atmosphere. But what if humanity does not intervene to restrict CO_2 emissions? Iconoclastic physicist Freeman Dyson argued that a higher carbon dioxide concentration would boost agricultural productivity, and that most climate scientists were far too pessimistic in their assertions. Ultimately, Dyson pointed out that

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Although the average fan of "saving the environment" might mean well, the organized activists and intellectuals often have an anti-capitalist agenda, which is conveniently served by the hysteria over climate change.

humanity could plant genetically modified "carbon eating trees" if push came to shove, as scientists improved their understanding of the climate system over time.

However, despite my familiarity with the arguments among natural scientists on the impact of human CO_2 emissions, as an economist I am much more qualified to speak on the *economic* aspect of climate change. And as we'll see, there is plenty of dubious goalpost-shifting and double-talk even if we concede what the "consensus" among the physical scientists says regarding the climate. As I'm about to explain, just relying on the UN's own summaries of the peer-reviewed literature, as well as the impact models selected by former President Barack Obama's Environmental Protection Agency, I can show that the alarmist rhetoric is not supported by the literature.

"Climate Change" vs. "Global Warming"

The first and most basic point is that there was a rhetorical switch in the debate. It *used* to be that the big problem was called "global warming," allegedly caused by unregulated capitalism, which focused on profit while ignoring the "negative externalities" of greenhouse-gas emissions. But gradually the official phrase morphed into "climate change," and if you really wanted to show you were up to speed with the literature, you'd say *anthropogenic* (i.e., man-made) climate change.

You can see this shift in the titles of books. For example, William Nordhaus — who would go on to win the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in 2018 for his work in this area — had a seminal book come out in 2008 titled *A Question of Balance: Weighing the Options on Global Warming Policies.* But in 2021, a collection of essays in honor of the now-laureate came out with the title *Climate Change Economics: Commemoration of Nobel Prize for William Nordhaus*.

While I can't point to a leaked memo showing that this was a conscious strategy, I think it's clear that, rhetorically, this shift from "global warming" to "climate change" was important. For one thing, because the 1998 El Niño year had been unusually warm, there was the awkward fact (for the climate activists) that the official measurements of global temperature

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showed no warming in the decade or so following; critics dubbed this a global warming "pause" or "hiatus."

Perhaps of more significance, even taking into account the general upward trend of the average global temperature (which of course can be subject to short-term fluctuations), the leading climate models were predicting much larger increases in temperature (based on the amount of global greenhouse-gas emissions) than what was actually observed. Back in 2019, I looked at the results published by a leading NASA scientist whose mission was to *debunk* the so-called climate deniers. Using his own charts, I showed that according to land-based measurements of global temperature, the chosen climate models were on the verge of being falsified because the globe was too cool (i.e., actual temperature measurements were almost below the bottom of the 95-percent confidence band), and according to satellite-based measures, the models already *had* been falsified by the actual temperature readings. And to repeat, I was using the very same output that the NASA scientist was offering!

In this context, the reader can surely appreciate how useful it would be to get the public to stop using the term "global warming" and instead switch to "climate change." After all, it's pretty easy to check whether the average global temperature is rising as rapidly as the models projected, and it's possible the answer would be "no." But if we're talking about *climate change*, then that's always going to be occurring. There will always be some flooding, droughts, hurricanes, etc., that will be unusually severe, any of which can be pinned on capitalism.

The Social Cost of Carbon

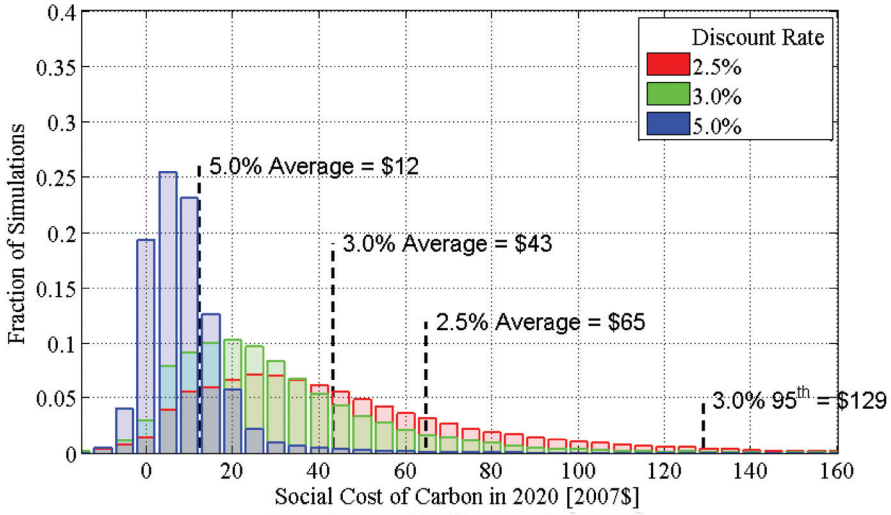
In July 2013, I testified before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, giving a presentation titled "The 'Social Cost of Carbon': Some Surprising Facts." I first gave the standard definition of the "social cost of carbon" (SCC) as the estimated external damage, measured in today's dollars, that an additional ton of CO_2 emissions would inflict on humanity in the coming decades. For guidance on taxes and other regulations, it was critical to have such an estimate of the SCC, because that would give policymakers an idea of the *benefits* to humanity from tightening the screws on emissions, against which we could contrast the costs of government measures, such as higher electricity and gasoline prices.

In this context, a large SCC would provide ammunition for aggressive government interventions, such as a high "carbon tax" and/or stricter targets on emission reductions. In contrast, a low SCC would mean that an additional ton of CO_2 emitted today didn't make that much of a difference to human welfare, and so policymakers shouldn't hurt the economy much in an effort to restrict emissions.

I then shared some surprising facts about the SCC. In the first place, I disabused the senators of the notion that it was a purely "scientific" fact, such as the charge on an electron or mass of the sun. On the contrary, the *main driver* of the estimated social cost of carbon was the *discount rate* applied to the estimated stream of future climate-change damages caused by an additional ton of emissions.

Because the discount rate is such a critical factor in the climate-change debate, let me explain the concept. When comparing costs and benefits over long periods of time, it is important to take into account *when they occur*. The discount rate is essentially the exchange rate that puts today's dollars on a footing comparable to dollars accruing on some future date. For an analogy, we use exchange rates to compare currencies in different countries. If a business buys materials in London to make a product sold in Spain, it is essential to know the exchange rate between the pound and the euro. Similarly, if a business buys materials *today* to make a product that will be sold next year, then the (annual) discount rate — say, six percent

FIGURE 1. SOCIAL COST OF CARBON AT VARIOUS DISCOUNT RATES.



SOURCE: Figure 1 in May 2013 White House Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon.

— shows how much a 2027 dollar should be scaled down to make it comparable to a 2026 dollar.

To show just how significant this concept of the discount rate was, I quoted from the Obama administration's 2013 Interagency Working Group on the Social Cost of Carbon, which had used three of the leading computer models of the economic impacts of climate change in order to produce estimates of the SCC. Using a 2.5-percent discount rate, the Obama team estimated that the 2010 SCC was $52/ton. But using a five-percent discount rate, the estimate of the 2010 SCC dropped to a mere $11/ton.

These two vastly different estimates — one of them saying an additional ton of emissions in 2010 would inflict $11 in future damages to humanity, while the other estimated $52 in damages — were based *on the exact same projections of the future climate*. But because the majority of the damages in the computer simulations wouldn't occur until decades (or even centuries) into the future, the annual discount rate, by which we convert future dollars into present dollars, had a huge impact on the final answer.

Now here was the part that was downright funny: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) had provided guidance to agencies on how they were to produce cost/benefit analyses of proposed regulations. Specifically, OMB Circular A-4 stated, "For regulatory analysis, you should provide estimates of net benefits using both 3 percent and 7 percent." But the Obama Working Group did *not* provide estimates of the SCC using a seven-percent discount rate, even though that was quite explicitly called for. Instead, the Working Group only reported estimates of the SCC at the discount rates of 2.5 percent, three percent, and five percent, as shown in the chart above.

As the chart indicates, the higher the discount rate, the lower the estimated SCC. So now we can understand why the Obama Working Group flatly ignored the guidance to include a seven-percent discount rate in their analysis: That could arguably have made the SCC *negative*, which would mean, according to their own economic framework, that the government should *subsidize* fossil-fuel usage!

In case this is surprising to some readers, let me elaborate: The Obama Working Group selected three of the leading models that assessed the damage to humanity (quantified in dollar terms) from various levels of emissions. One of the models (the FUND model, developed by Richard Tol) actually showed that greenhouse-gas emissions provided a net *benefit* to humanity in the near future, and only down the road were harmful on net. (The near-term benefits from emissions came from things such as enhanced agricultural yields in a CO_2-richer atmosphere, fewer elderly people dying from cold in the winter, etc.)

Thus, in Tol's model an additional ton of greenhouse-gas emissions would give a flow of initial benefits, which would then flip to a more distant flow of damages. This is why it's possible that at a high enough discount rate — which treats near-term dollars as more valuable than distant dollars — the overall impact of additional emissions might be beneficial, meaning the estimate of the social cost of carbon would be negative (because it would actually be the social *benefit* of carbon).

There was yet another aspect of OMB guidance that the Obama team ignored, as I spelled out in my Senate testimony. As the original 2010 version of the Obama Working Group report admitted, "Under current OMB guidance contained in Circular A-4, analysis of economically significant proposed and final regulations from the domestic perspective is required, while analysis from the international perspective is optional." The reason for this is straightforward: When assessing whether the benefits of a proposed regulation exceed its costs, U.S. policymakers should be considering the benefits and costs *to Americans*.

Yet the Working Group then went on to explain why it would focus on international (i.e., global) values. To get a sense of the impact of this decision, consider that the report also "determined that a range of values from 7 to 23 percent should be used to adjust the global SCC to calculate domestic effects." In other words, even though Americans would bear the brunt of any costs associated with U.S. government climate regulations, they would only receive seven to 23 percent of the estimated benefits (in the form of avoided climate-change damages).

To sum up: When the Obama Working Group released its 2013 update, the media covered the story by reporting that "the" social cost of carbon was $33/ton. (Here they were using the three-percent discount rate and the year 2010.) But if the Working Group had followed OMB guidance and reported only the *domestic* impact, the estimate of the SCC would have been a mere $2 to $8. And furthermore, if they had followed OMB guidance and reported the results at a seven-percent discount rate,

it would have shown an SCC of virtually $0, or even *negative*. And note, none of this is me being a "science denier"; I am simply explaining how to apply the *economic* elements of discount rates and the boundaries of a cost/benefit analysis.

Nobel Laureate vs. the UN

I've saved the best example for last. When it comes to the gap between the climate-activist rhetoric versus the underlying research, nothing can top what happened in October 2018. On the same day that William Nordhaus was a co-recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize for his work on climate-change economics, the UN released its "Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C." This was a comprehensive analysis of various taxes and regulations that governments around the world could implement, with the goal of limiting the rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C.

Mainstream media such as *The New York Times* treated the two events as complementary. After all, what could be more natural than to cover the economist who won the Nobel for his pioneering work on how to set an "optimal" carbon tax to correct for the flaws in laissez-faire capitalism, along with the new UN report telling the world that scientists insisted a 1.5°C ceiling was very important?

There was just one problem with this narrative: If you actually looked into the specifics of Nordhaus' work (which I had done, starting with a critique of the 2007 version of his model that I had published back in 2009), it would reveal that putting a 1.5°C ceiling on global warming was so draconian that *it would be better for humanity if governments did nothing at all* rather than limit greenhouse-gas emissions so zealously.

Let me make sure the reader understands the significance of what I've just written. William Nordhaus is by no means a free-market economist; he is a Keynesian who thinks it is the proper role of government to correct market inefficiencies such as pollution and global warming. (Indeed, Nordhaus was a co-author with Paul Samuelson on later editions of his celebrated economics textbook, which for decades gave the standard Keynesian framework for regulating capitalism.) Moreover, on the issue of government correcting the market failure in the case of greenhouse-gas emissions, Nordhaus was such a pioneer that he won the Nobel Memorial Prize for his Dynamic Integrated Climate-Economy (DICE) model. (This also happened to be one of the three models that the Obama Working Group had chosen when providing estimates for the social cost of carbon.)

What I am saying is that *even Nordhaus' model* showed that if you were *too* aggressive in penalizing CO_2 emissions, it would be a cure worse than the disease. The higher energy and transportation costs would cause more harm to humanity than the climate change resulting from even unrestricted emissions. And, specifically, it was easy for me to show that the popular target of a 1.5°C ceiling on global warming — so popular that it was the subject of the special report from the UN, released just as Nordhaus won his prize — was clearly unjustified, according to Nordhaus' model. And yet, the media at the time reported on Nordhaus' award and the UN's new report as if they both were saying the same thing about the "settled science."

Evolving Views on the IPCC Reports

This episode underscored a broader trend that I had noticed in my years in the trenches of the climate-change policy debates. When I first entered the arena

The overall impact of additional emissions might be beneficial, meaning the estimate of the social cost of carbon would be negative (because it would actually be the social *benefit* of carbon).

around 2007, those who wanted the government to tax and/or directly restrict CO_2 emissions had adopted the mantra, "Follow the science!" This was related to the typical move to dismiss critics of a carbon tax as "science deniers," reminiscent of Holocaust deniers.

At that time, "the science" of climate-change policy was distilled into the periodic reports issued by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In those days (the mid- to late-2000s), the typical debates would feature a critic of government intervention reminding people that major media had been warning of global cooling in the 1970s, while the proponent of a stiff carbon tax would point everybody to the authoritative IPCC reports that had summarized the "peer-reviewed research."

But as I and other market-oriented analysts examined the IPCC reports, we found that *the economic assessments* didn't support aggressive policy solutions. It was true that the reports projected harm from climate change if governments did nothing (what was called the "business as usual" baseline), but there was nothing *catastrophic* in the projections. The vast majority of the peer-reviewed economic models summarized in the IPCC reports showed that people in the year 2100 were going to be far wealthier than people today, with or without climate change. This made it very strange, then, to impose onerous carbon taxes and other regulations on the relatively poor people of today, in order to provide an even better lifestyle to the richer people of the distant future.

Over the years, I saw with my own eyes that the climate activists pivoted *away* from the economic research in the IPCC reports, and then even from those reports altogether. And the reason was clear: Even though economists such as Nordhaus had no objection in principle to the government intervening in the energy and transportation sectors, his approach was realistic enough to rule out absolute absurdities. But that's exactly what the climate activists wanted, which is why William Nordhaus eventually became a public enemy in their camp.

Conclusion

In this essay I've tried to give a succinct yet substantive account of the mismatch between the official rhetoric and the actual research when it comes to the economics of climate change. Rather than "following the science," the activists seemed to know what they wanted the answer to be — attack capitalism — with the trappings of climate change thrown on for the public. This isn't to impugn the actual researchers in the various physical sciences related to the topic, but rather those who use (and often distort) that research to achieve their political objectives.

In closing, let me make one final observation: If the climate activists truly believed that humanity has, say, a decade to really tamp down on greenhouse-gas emissions lest we are doomed, then you would expect them to be the biggest advocates of nuclear energy. But with a few notable exceptions (such as James Hansen), the most strident opponents of coal and oil tend to be the biggest critics of nuclear as well. This doesn't make sense if they are actually concerned that fossil fuels will ruin the planet. But it makes perfect sense if their real goal is to restrict human living standards and overturn market economies. ■

The Health of Nations

Prosperity Derives From Morality, Not Materialism

by Rebecca Terrell

Capitalism and socialism are close cousins in that they idolize the economic value of human beings over all other characteristics that make us human, such as personality, conscience, intellect, imagination, family, and, most importantly, the eternal soul. Despite their centuries-long reputation as ideological opposites, their rivalry stems from competition for the same materialistic goal. Indeed, under both systems, humans are reduced to units of production, consumption, and labor; the soul is ignored, and therefore implicitly denied. The logical conclusion is that people are disposable if they do not contribute to the material economy. Hence, abortion and euthanasia are not only acceptable, but expected.

Karl Marx famously reduced people to economic units in *The Communist Manifesto*, categorizing them as mere "labor power," which he defined as the core human value. He may have criticized capitalism for turning the worker into "an appendage of the machine," but his ideology was guilty of the same.

However, the criticism was well deserved. Though Adam Smith placed his theories within a moral framework, the "Father of Capitalism" famously observed in *The Wealth of Nations* that individuals are motivated by self-interest, and that society benefits from individuals pursuing their selfish intent. Today, capitalism, unfettered by moral constraints, concludes that human worth is measured by productivity and income. The character Gordon Gekko encapsulated contemporary thought in the 1987 film *Wall Street*; "greed is good" became a modern mantra, rounding out the enthronement of the seven deadly sins in our society.

Former communist Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn observed the similarities between Soviet communism and Western materialism. Addressing Harvard graduates in 1978, he noted that "the West has lost its civil courage" and moral compass by redefining "the pursuit of happiness" as the pursuit of material goods, while communism crushes the soul by subordinating everything to economics.

British author G.K. Chesterton similarly remarked that both capitalism and socialism erroneously agree that economics can solve humanity's problems. "The materialist theory of history, that all politics and ethics are the expression of economics, is a very simple fallacy indeed," he wrote in *The Everlasting Man*. "It consists simply of confusing the necessary conditions of life with the normal preoccupations of life, that are quite a different thing. It is like saying that because a man can only walk about on two legs, therefore he never walks about except to buy shoes and stockings."

The ancient Greeks would have agreed with Solzhenitsyn and Chesterton. "Man," Aristotle wrote in *Politics*, "is by nature a political animal." That is, he is more than a mere economic unit; he derives fulfillment from a variety of interactions with others. The goal of these interactions is, according to Aristotle's *Ethics*, virtue — the essential component for both the individual and society to achieve happiness and prosperity. The philosopher placed economic factors such as production and distribution in their rightful place: as tools at the disposal of man in his pursuit of virtue. In other words, the economy is created for man; man is not created for the economy.

Toward this end, the Greeks prioritized leisure time — but not in the modern sense of sloth or idleness. The word *leisure* derives from the Greek *schole*, which means "study" or "learning," because intellectual pursuits were seen as the best use of time. Aristotle gave a prime example in *Politics*, when he blamed the decline of Sparta on its incapacity for leisure. Though that nation had achieved supremacy through war, it lacked the morality and

Rebecca Terrell is a senior editor of The New American.

competence to maintain its power in peacetime. Its military myopia left Spartans unprepared for spiritual and cultural development. Predictably, their government collapsed.

Likewise, technological prowess is not what makes a society great. On his YouTube channel Predictive History, Harvard researcher Jiang Xueqin argues that although China pioneered transformative inventions such as paper, printing, the compass, and gunpowder, Western Europe became the dominant world power. "In the grand scheme of things, technology doesn't matter," Jiang notes. "You must fix the culture first."

What was different about Western Europe? Constantine the Great planted the seed of Aristotle's vision of a virtuous society by issuing the Edict of Milan in 313 A.D., legalizing Christianity. The resulting central control wielded by a spiritual head over decentralized nation-states provided widespread stability, allowing more than a mere survival-based existence. There was time for the Greek ideal of leisure — time to achieve the highest good of spiritual cultivation — time for the "pursuit of happiness," which Christendom rightly defined as the pursuit of God, for God is the source of all happiness; none can be found without Him.

The next thousand years witnessed a steady flowering of scientific ingenuity and artistic talents, resulting in the boon of the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries. This was the age of the unparalleled cathedrals of Europe, a time when the Franciscan friar Roger Bacon pioneered the empirical method in science, and his Dominican counterpart Albert the Great laid the groundwork for modern biology. Illustrious universities sprang up, such as those at Bologna, Naples, Padua, Coimbra, Salamanca, Oxford, Cambridge, and the Sorbonne. Music and other arts thrived. Thomas Aquinas established Scholasticism and penned the most influential work of Western literature, the *Summa Theologica*.

It is no coincidence that during this time the Catholic Church mandated nearly 100 vacation days annually — more than one quarter of the year! (In ecclesiastical terminology, these are known as Holy Days of Obligation. They include all Sundays as well as other days set aside for commemoration, such as Christmas.) On each of these, business came to a halt while people were required to go to church and abstain from servile work. In other words, they were free to pursue happiness.

Did the economy tank? On the contrary, it flourished!

Despite that, the modern world calls those thriving centuries the "Dark Ages," a term coined by 14th-century scholar Francesco Petrarch, who made it his goal to shed light on what he called the "darkness and dense gloom" of his own age. As the Father of Humanism, he shifted focus from man's spiritual development with the goal of eternal life to man's intellectual and scientific development in the temporal world.

Over time, Christendom's ideal of leisure gave way to humanism's gospel of work, which was firmly entrenched by 1673 when Richard Baxter's *Christian Directory* defined work as a spiritual duty incumbent upon all, even those who "have no outward want to urge them." This was the 17th-century version of "greed is good." Thus avarice became a virtue.

"Capitalism and Communism are dedicated to the servile arts, those unworthy of a free man," wrote the late Dr. Robert Herrera of Seton Hall University. "Both breed 'men without festivals' with greatly reduced horizons, the mass man who exists only by reacting to external stimuli." On the other hand, Christian leisure is the groundwork upon which our culture was built. It is "the possession of tranquility" and "a requirement for man to be authentically, fully human." It views people and things not as *goods* but as *good* — because they come from God, not because they are useful.

So as pundits debate which economic system will solve our nation's problems, it behooves us to remember the lessons of history. They certainly back up the advice that God Himself gave us in His Sermon on the Mount: "Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and His justice, and all these things shall be added unto you." ■

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The Tyrant's Toolkit: Virginia's Assault on the Second Amendment

by Joe Wolverton II, J.D.

As the Virginia Legislature convenes once more, the enemies of liberty are sharpening their legislative blades, preparing to hack away at the sinews of the Second Amendment under the pretense of "public safety." Their latest weapon of political deceit comes in the form of House Bill 217, a sweeping catalogue of infringements that would make King George III blush.

The bill's drafters pretend to be guardians of order; in truth, they are the gravediggers of freedom. HB 217 would ban the importation, sale, manufacture, purchase, and transfer of entire classes of firearms — rifles, pistols, and shotguns — merely because they bear cosmetic features that offend the delicate sensibilities of bureaucrats: pistol grips, folding stocks, threaded barrels, detachable magazines. In the fevered mind of the modern tyrant, a pistol grip has become more dangerous than the criminal who wields it.

This bill does not merely regulate; it redefines the right itself. It transforms the ordinary, lawful implements of self-defense into contraband by legislative fiat. The authors of HB 217 would outlaw the very tools by which free men have historically preserved their lives, their families, and their Republic.

The Founders' Antidote to Fear

The Framers of our Constitution understood a truth that every despot seeks to bury: An armed people are not subjects, but sovereigns. James Madison, the father of that Constitution, declared that the advantage of being armed is one "the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation." And George Mason warned, "To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them."

HB 217 is precisely that "effectual way." It criminalizes not conduct but capacity, the potential of citizens to resist. By classifying ordinary semiautomatic firearms as "assault weapons," the state arrogates to itself the power to decide what level of defense the citizen may retain. In so doing, it reverses the moral and constitutional order established by the Founders.

The Second Amendment does not grant a right; it recognizes a pre-existing one. "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed" is not a permission slip but a prohibition, directed squarely at the government. Virginia's lawmakers have forgotten that they are bound by that supreme law, not empowered to rewrite it according to the fears of the moment or the fashions of the mob.

Criminalizing the Innocent

Under HB 217, importing or transfering one of these arbitrarily defined "assault firearms" becomes a crime punishable by up to a year in jail and a fine of $2,500. A misdemeanor, yes — but one that also carries a three-year ban on possessing any firearms whatsoever. The state thereby converts misdemeanors into tools of disarmament, turning ordinary Virginians into second-class citizens for the sin of owning the wrong barrel or magazine.

Even the young — those under 21 — are to be stripped of their birthright, regardless of whether their firearms were

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lawfully owned before the ban. The right of self-defense, bestowed by the Creator and acknowledged by the Constitution, is here reduced to a privilege contingent on age and legislative whim.

Worse still, the bill authorizes the seizure and forfeiture of the firearm, magazine, and accessories involved in any alleged violation, even when no felony has been committed. Such power belongs not to a free government, but to a police state. The Founders bled to prevent precisely this — the confiscation of property without conviction, the punishment of citizens for possessing the means to resist oppression.

Economic Warfare on Liberty

As if this legislative bludgeon were not enough, the enemies of freedom have unsheathed HB 207, a financial ambush aimed at those who lawfully own or wish to purchase firearm suppressors. After years of advocacy succeeded in convincing Congress to reduce the federal tax on suppressors from $200 to zero, Virginia now proposes to impose its own $500 state tax, a transparent attempt to price ordinary citizens out of exercising their rights.

No honest government taxes a constitutionally guaranteed right. Imagine a $500 fee for publishing an article or a $500 tax on attending church. Yet here the Legislature hopes to smother the Second Amendment under the weight of its own greed. It is taxation as nullification, tyranny in accounting form.

But still they are not finished. Senate Bill 27 seeks to hold manufacturers and dealers liable for crimes they neither committed nor could have prevented — an economic absurdity designed to bankrupt the firearms industry by litigation. And Senate Bill 38 extends government authority to confiscate weapons from those deemed "prohibited persons," broadening the already-abused category of citizens stripped of their rights without due process.

The Historical Pattern of Disarmament

History offers no examples of governments that disarmed their people and left them free. From Cromwell's England to Stalin's Russia, from Nazi Germany to Mao's China, the pattern is immutable: The disarmed are soon the enslaved. Our own Revolution began when British troops marched to seize Colonial arms at Lexington and Concord. The "shot heard 'round the world" was not fired over taxes or tariffs, but over the eternal right to bear arms in defense of liberty.

Virginia, the cradle of the Revolution, now stands at the precipice of becoming the cradle of disarmament. It is a tragic irony that the soil once trod by Patrick Henry — who thundered "Give me liberty or give me death!" — is now host to lawmakers who would trade both liberty and life for the illusion of safety.

The Moral Dimension

At stake here is not merely the possession of steel and powder; it is the moral architecture of self-government. The Second Amendment presupposes a citizenry capable of self-defense, self-discipline, and self-rule. To disarm that citizenry is to confess the state's belief that the people are no longer fit to govern themselves.

The Founders would recognize this for what it is: a redefinition of citizenship itself. An armed citizen is a participant in his own freedom; a disarmed subject is merely a spectator of his own subjugation. The Virginia Legislature, in its zeal to "protect," would reduce the sovereign people to wards of the state, dependent on the very government the Second Amendment was written to restrain.

The Duty to Resist Peacefully but Firmly

The great Virginian Thomas Jefferson warned that "the natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground." The only antidote is vigilance and refusal. Today's Virginians must not consent to this slow asphyxiation of their rights. They must speak, write, organize, and vote as if the fate of the Republic hangs in the balance, because it does.

The Second Amendment was never about hunting or sport. It was, and remains, the people's final guarantee against tyranny. To surrender it piecemeal, feature by feature, tax by tax, is to invite the very despotism our ancestors overthrew.

HB 217, HB 207, SB 27, and SB 38 are not mere bills; they are instruments of usurpation. They must be exposed, resisted, and defeated — not out of defiance, but out of fidelity to the supreme law of the land and to the God-given right of every human being to defend life and liberty.

Let Virginia remember her own motto — *Sic semper tyrannis* ("Thus always to tyrants") — and let every patriot remember that the Second Amendment is no artifact, it is the Republic's beating heart, the thundering pulse that sustains every other right. ■

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ABETTING BEIJING'S BURGLARS

The Story the CCP Does Not Want Revealed
THE GREAT HEIST
China's Epic
Campaign to
Steal America's
Secrets
Former Acting DIA Director • Former DIA Case Officer
DAVID R. SHEDD & ANDREW BADGER

by William P. Hoar

***The Great Heist: China's Epic Campaign to Steal America's Secrets*,** by David R. Shedd and Andrew Badger, New York: Harper, 2025, 362 pages, hardcover.

There is a geostrategic struggle going on, with the Chinese Communists being on the offensive against the United States and the West — even as we have essentially been subsidizing Beijing's efforts. *The Great Heist: China's Epic Campaign to Steal America's Secrets* is largely about the extent of the state-sponsored espionage — directed at intellectual property, technology, and data — but it also exposes how our reactions have been counterproductive to national security.

We are reminded of the extent to which China has employed cyberattacks and other undercover activities to pilfer restricted information — closing technological gaps by illegally reverse-engineering as well as by spying. As a result, current major media accounts, even those generally considered to be "conservative," are reporting that Beijing is now building an arms industry that rivals the West.

The book under review assesses how this has happened, and points to the hard choices facing our country as a result.

Chinese strategist Sun Tzu is renowned for recognizing the importance of knowing your opponents: "If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles." Beijing believes it understands us well. We need to comprehend the threat we face and regain the initiative.

Authors David Shedd and Andrew Badger do an admirable job of adding perspective to often-tawdry underground activities. They have been in the fight. Shedd is the former deputy director and acting director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). He also served as National Security Council senior director and as special assistant to the president for intelligence under George W. Bush. Badger is a former DIA case officer who, among other assignments, deployed to Afghanistan in 2014 in support of U.S. military operations. He also has advised global firms in the private sector about geopolitical risks.

Their genuine concerns about today's China are bookended, first, by visiting Justinian in Byzantium in the 6th century and, later, by examining the tactics of Rome and Carthage in the First Punic War. The parallels might surprise you. This is not an ancient history book per se, but looking to annals may assist in unraveling why China pursues its grand strategy — and is playing a long war.

Xi's Strategic Industrial Policy

Being forewarned isn't always sufficient, as Elon Musk and Tesla discovered after building a foreign-owned electric-automobile firm in China, employing the proprietary battery tech called Autopilot. Alerts from the FBI had been direct, according to a former Tesla insider quoted in the book: "They warned us," he paraphrased. "If you don't want your intellectual property stolen, don't open a factory in China."

Musk was aware of what was at risk (though he thought his people could move faster than the Chinese). In the words of one senior staffer, "Elon always worried about the so-called billion-dollar thumb drive: a single USB stick with the Autopilot source code. That was the nightmare." You can tell what is coming (the time frame is 2019).

Then jump back in time.

Folks on the Silk Road, centuries ago, undoubtedly knew how valuable their silkworm larvae were. Then the "Byzantines" made their move. ("Byzantines" called themselves *Romaioi*, or, as we say, "Romans.") As noted in *The Great Heist*, monks were given their marching orders by the emperor to travel to China. They later returned through the towers of Constantinople with silkworms, their great prize, carried inside of "their hollowed-out bamboo walking sticks." After that, we read, "the Romans were able to eventually break the Chinese and Persian stranglehold of the silk trade." The journey of these unnamed monks, as recounted by the authors, "was perhaps one of history's most defining acts of industrial espionage, a heist that helped shift

the global balance of economic power in the ancient world."

Here's a note on the book's style: This isn't a "newspaper," with names, places, and dates up front. For the most part, the structure and tone are that of a narrative, with descriptions and persuasive evidence. The writing is clear and there are plenty of statistics to back up contentions, but on occasion the reader needs to ferret around a bit to sort out the facts (as the English are wont to say). In fact, the final two chapters are rendered as "fiction," set in a White House Situation Room and a key boardroom. That might seem odd at first, but it does allow for exchanges of points and counterpoints between the fictional characters that may well do a better job of exposition than lists of bullet points.

The notes and index are comprehensive, but there are no photographs (other than on the cover) or graphics. Those would have been a plus for those not well-versed in, say, military airplane terminology. Consider a recent defense show in Riyadh that gets more than a hundred words (about, for instance a "faceted cockpit" and engine "nacelles sunk just so." It looks, we are told, like "America's own F-35" advanced multipurpose fighter, with a "program life cycle exceeding $2 trillion." But, as the copy continues, the label on the model display "was as clear as day: FC-31." Moreover, goes the account, the flag accompanying it was not "the Stars and Stripes. It was red, with five yellow stars." In this case, the art on the cover is a help.

By the way, the (unidentified) Chinese man on the book's front cover is Xu Yanjun (he is more recognizable than the president of the People's Republic of China). Xu was a deputy division director of the Ministry of State Security (MSS) who was convicted for attempting to steal trade secrets from leading aviation firms. He became the first Chinese intel officer extradited to the United States to face trial.

Years before, President Xi Jinping handed down his "Made in China 2025" battle plans — a 2015 strategic initiative shooting for a deadline in a decade — with the industries named and timetables set for sectors. The MSS is still doing its utmost in that regard. "At one point in 2019," write Shedd and Badger, "the FBI was opening a China industrial case every twelve hours."

"Virus" Welcomed Into Global Trade

How did the Red fox get into the henhouse? Sadly, "liberal" hens invited him. (That said, this volume is not particularly partisan.) President Bill Clinton did help provide a vital key, such as in 2000 when he pushed permanent normal trade relations with the People's Republic of China and support for its entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO). In hindsight, the authors believe that was the moment "the proverbial virus entered the world trade system and the launching pad for the [Chinese Communist Party's] Great Heist against America." (The "heist" motif does make numerous repeat appearances, arguably more often than needed.)

One excuse used by Clinton and his allies for admitting China into the WTO was that it would be a "mechanism through which liberal capitalism would eventually erode the country's illiberal authoritarianism." That didn't happen, of course. (One should not be surprised at an untruth when discussing Clinton, who has long lived on the wrong side of the facts. Recall how he famously swore about his relations, or lack thereof, with Monica Lewinsky.)

What really did grow was China's economic power. After Beijing was admitted to the WTO, its GNP went from $1.3 trillion (in 2001) to more than $17 trillion by 2023. (As we write, the most recent estimate is about $18.9 trillion.) Here is the other side of the ledger: According to official estimates cited in the book, the annual cost of intellectual property theft to the American economy is between $225 billion and $600 billion, with almost all of it by China. (As the authors also observe, that is not that far from America's spending on defense each year.)

For the record, and it's an unflattering one, Clinton pooh-poohed concerns about new WTO member Beijing and its repression and censorship, making light (to his audience's laughter) of what was assumed to be a useless attempt to crack down on the internet. That is, the president said in a speech, "sort of like trying to nail Jello to the wall." That, recall, became known as the "Great Firewall."

The arrest of Xu was crucial in exposing the "playbook" of China's MSS. Readers are provided with abbreviated scripts of the MSS's modus operandi — including succinct paragraphs of academic and professional exploitation, the whole-of-society approach, incremental entrapment, covert acquisition of technology, how social media is used for recruitment, the importance of financial and familial leverage, and how cyber-intrusions aid in covert intelligence-gathering by agents.

"Eighty-Five-Times Thirty"

Most of the volume is free of clunky bureaucratese. But not all. We do get to dig into how America's USTR viewed the PRC's strategy in a document known as the NML, in a process named IDAR. We're talking, of course, about the Office of the United States Trade Representative and the People's Republic of China's National Medium- and Long-Term Program for Science and Technology (2006-2020); and a directive to "Introduce, Digest, Absorb, and Re-Innovate" foreign intellectual property and technology.

There is, thankfully, very little of that gobbledygook.

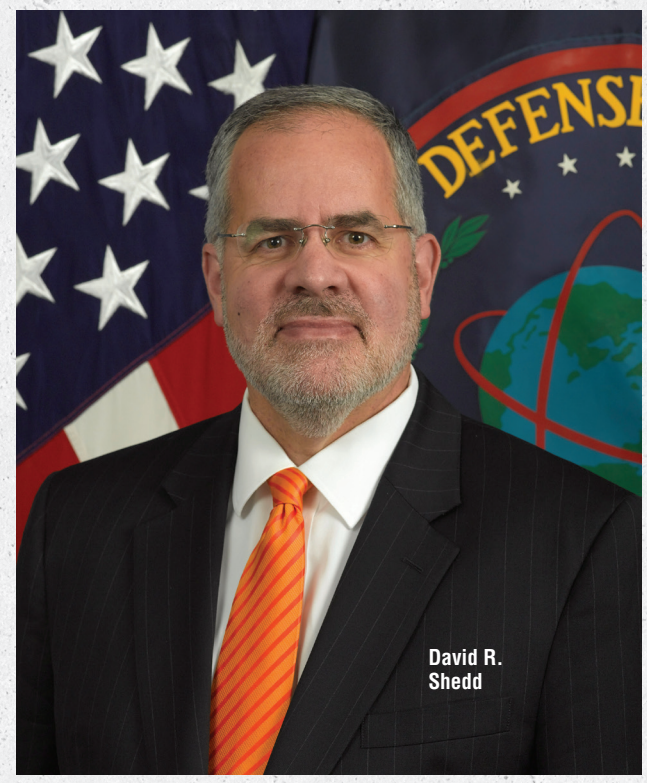
We also get to watch how Beijing follows its state-of-the-art scheme. One of the book's crucial sources (mentioned several times and singled out for thanks in the "Acknowledgments") is a top longtime former FBI counterintelligence and counterterrorism official named William Evanina, who notes that Xi and his inner circle more than doubled the size of the MSS between 2013 and 2015, "because they knew" they were about to step up IP (internet protocol) theft — estimating that the numbers went from approximately 120,000 to almost 300,000 "in twenty-four months, which is incredible."

Americans and others in the West have been watching, with despair, aspects of the piracy. Evanina recalls how he explained that process in FBI briefings, with a formula of his own devising: He called it "eighty-five-times thirty." He pointed to a representative "widget" built in the United States and how Beijing was able to dominate that market. "The Chinese would steal the technology and build that same widget, but with only eighty-five percent of the capability because it's cheaper, and then it would sell globally for thirty cents instead of a dollar."

Elsewhere, we find out how badly the United States has been hit with a brain drain. This also builds up our enemies. A chapter about hypersonic missiles and

national security, focusing on the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, reveals how that U.S.-funded program became known as the "Los Alamos Club" to the Chinese. A study by Strider Technologies found that, as of 2022, "162 scientists who once worked at Los Alamos in some official capacity had returned to work in China."

The list of crimes is a long one — including the methods of Huawei's infiltration of America's 5G network and telecom infrastructure; the Equifax hack, when more than 145 million Americans, more than half of the American adult population, had all their financial data compromised; and how the Chinese stole wind-energy tech for turbine blades, then walked it out of a factory that was jointly owned by Americans.



David R. Shedd

Undermining U.S. Technological Edge

Perhaps two-thirds of the book delves into specifics on the sectors that have been hit in what is dubbed the "attack of the clones." Among these: electric vehicles; telecommunications; "artificially subsidized intelligence"; the Department of Defense, including hypersonic missile technology; venture capital; healthcare; energy; and agriculture (the book describes "agri-espionage," in which purloined corn kernels play a key role and FBI personnel stalk seeds across the land).

A recent analysis of the world's most important future technologies has been compiled by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), a prominent think tank. The results are summarized in the volume under review. Among these are advanced explosives, superconductors, AI algorithms, hardware accelerators, and electric batteries. ASPI concluded that Communist China "now leads in thirty-seven of the forty-four fields of emerging critical technologies it tracks (almost all of which were sectors or technologies targeted by Made in China 2025)."

This brings to mind another maxim of Sun Tzu, from more than 2,500 years ago: "The skillful leader subdues the enemy's troops without any fighting."

On the other side — ours — we should realize how China's campaign has "hollowed out America's technological edge," as Shedd and Badger write.

Among the examples cited is one from the year of publication (2025), when analysts and security officials took a close look at Chinese-made solar inverters, which help connect to electricity grids and are installed in hundreds of American communities, that contained "unauthorized communication modules." These were, we read, "not just any modules, but ones capable of sending and receiving data via covert channels. Not malware. Hardware. Embedded deep within the circuitry of the machinery."

These were not isolated flaws. They were "features, purposedly and deliberately engineered and distributed across the heart of the US energy grid under the banner of so-called green progress."

Again, we are told how ironic it is that the CCP's expansion and modernization have been underwritten by American investors. The authors reiterate the "inescapable circular irony" of the theft campaign. One supposes that it might be just ironic — but some would call it complicity, or use even more-blunt terms such as conspiracy. Still, *The Great Heist* does provide ammunition about how "America's pursuit of profits — of capital — has been weaponized against our own national interests." And, to their credit, the authors are specific on how to disrupt Beijing's espionage apparatus "and to reassert America's place as the world's innovation superpower."

Making an effective shift of scenery near the end of the book, to 260 B.C., we are reminded that it would then have seemed "unfathomable" to think that there could be a successful challenge "to Carthage's naval supremacy." The Carthaginians ruled the sea with their *triremes* (warships with three banks of oars); such ships were their "state secret." Meanwhile, Rome effectively ruled the land. But after a *trireme* accident near Roman shores, "Roman artisans learned the intricate construction method of their rivals" and began duplicating ship designs. And they improved them.

(There's more on this episode in *The Encyclopedia of Military History from 3500 B.C. to the Present*, second revised edition of 1986, the massive volume by R. Ernest Dupuy and Trevor N. Dupuy — which does have graphics and maps. As the Dupuy encyclopedia recounts, these "modified Roman warships were one of the first truly 'secret' weapons of history." The most important modification was the *corvus* — "a combined grappling device and gangway.")

The improvements allowed Roman soldiers to storm the decks of enemy ships. "The sea would become like land," say Shedd and Badger. Carthage's military advantage was to be "turned against it by its most bitter rival," notably at the Battle of Mylae, shifting the balance of power.

China's pursuit of Western groundbreaking technology echoes the ancient accounts.

Having allowed ourselves to be exploited, the need for an effective counteroffensive is palpable. This is a warning as well as a way out: America still can prevail, but only if we have the will to do so. ■

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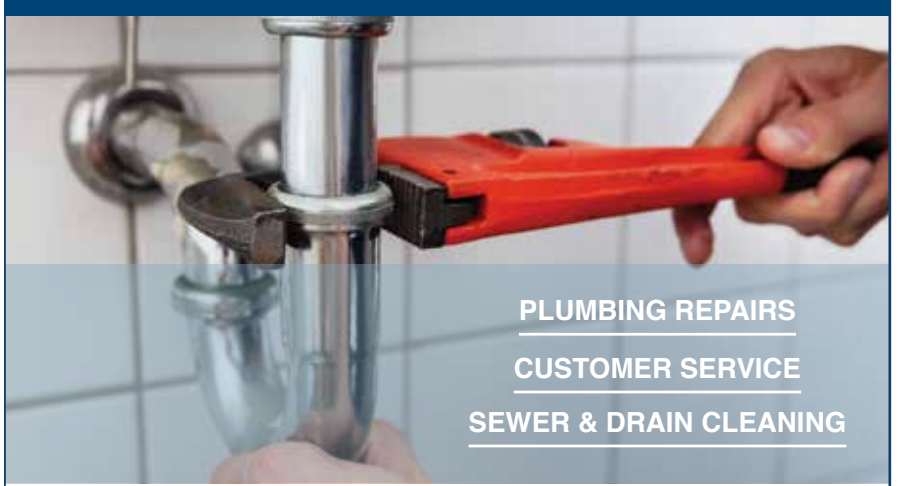

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***Fabian Freeway: High Road to Socialism in the U.S.A.*,** by Rose L. Martin, Appleton, Wisconsin: Western Islands, 2026 edition, 582 pages, paperback.

There are books that merely describe history, and then there are books that unmask it. There are works that chronicle events after the fact, and then there are those rare volumes that expose the machinery behind those events, the hidden architecture of power, the patient hands on the levers, the long-term strategists who prefer anonymity to acclaim. Rose L. Martin's *Fabian Freeway: High Road to Socialism in the U.S.A.* belongs decisively, unmistakably, and uncomfortably in the latter category.

First published in 1966, *Fabian Freeway* is routinely dismissed by critics as a product of Cold War excess, a paranoid artifact of a bygone ideological struggle. Such dismissals are not merely lazy, they are deeply revealing. For Martin's book is not speculative, hysterical, or impressionistic. It is methodical, exhaustively documented, meticulously sourced, and relentlessly logical. It does not trade in slogans; it marshals evidence. It does not indulge caricature; it exposes patterns.

And what Martin exposes is far more unsettling than the familiar image of socialism as a ragged mob storming barricades or waving red flags in public squares. The true enemy of liberty, she demonstrates with devastating clarity, is far more refined. It is the man in the tailored suit, armed not with a rifle but with a credential; not with revolutionary fury but with committee appointments; not with open rebellion but with patience, respectability, and a long view of history.

Martin understood something that too many Americans — even today — refuse to confront: The most successful revolutions are the ones that never announce themselves as revolutions at all.

Socialism With a Smile

At the heart of *Fabian Freeway* lies an uncomfortable truth — one that cuts directly against the comforting myths Americans tell themselves about their political resilience. Socialism's greatest successes have come not through force, but through gradualism; not through riots, but through reform; not through open revolution, but through administrative capture.

The Fabian Society, founded in London in 1884 and named after the Roman general Quintus Fabius Maximus — famous for defeating Hannibal not through decisive confrontation but through delay and attrition — understood something its Marxist cousins often ignored: Free peoples will resist chains, but they will often accept guidance. They will reject the cudgel but embrace the clipboard. They will fear the tyrant but trust the expert.

The Fabians' genius was to reject the guillotine in favor of the lecture hall, the soapbox in favor of the syllabus, and the barricade in favor of the bureaucracy. Their strategy was not to terrify the public into submission, but to educate it — education defined, of course, not as the pursuit of truth, but as the cultivation of acceptable conclusions.

Their motto — *Festina lente*, "Make haste slowly" — was not poetic ornamentation or antiquarian flourish. It was a battle plan. It encapsulated an entire philosophy of conquest by patience, of revolution without rupture, of transformation so incremental that resistance never coheres in time to stop it.

Martin traces this plan with surgical precision, beginning in Britain and following its deliberate transplantation to American soil. The United States, she shows, was not conquered by Fabian Socialism. It was cultivated. The soil was prepared long before legislation ever followed — prepared in universities, think tanks, journals, philanthropic foundations, professional associations, and "nonpartisan" advisory boards whose greatest talent lay in disguising ideology as expertise.

From Strategy to Structure

One of the most consequential — and least honestly discussed — manifestations of Fabian influence was the creation of institutional machinery designed to train elites, shape policy, and normalize centralized governance under the guise of expertise. The Fabian

Society did not merely theorize gradualism; it built the infrastructure to implement it.

In 1895, leading Fabians, including Sidney and Beatrice Webb, George Bernard Shaw, and Graham Wallas, were instrumental in founding the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). The LSE was never intended to be a neutral academy in the classical sense. It was conceived explicitly as a training ground for administrators, planners, economists, and civil servants who would carry Fabian assumptions into government, media, and international institutions. The goal was not open indoctrination, but habituation, producing graduates who regarded centralized planning, managed economies, and supranational governance as not merely acceptable, but inevitable.

The LSE became the intellectual engine of Fabian strategy, a place where theory was refined, policy was sanitized, and collectivist ideas were repackaged as "science." From its halls emerged generations of bureaucrats and policy intellectuals who would populate governments across the British Empire and beyond, carrying with them the quiet certainty that democratic self-government must eventually yield to administration by experts (i.e., technocracy).

That same stealth strategy — developed in intellectual societies, implemented through elite institutions — was deliberately replicated in the United States.

Although the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) was not formally founded by the Fabians themselves, it bore unmistakable Fabian fingerprints. Established in 1921, the CFR functioned as the American counterpart to Britain's Fabian-adjacent policy networks. Where the Fabian Society provided the strategy, the Council on Foreign Relations provided the vehicle.

The CFR brought together bankers, academics, corporate executives, media figures, and government officials into a permanent, self-reinforcing advisory class. Its purpose was not to reflect public opinion, but to shape it, particularly in matters of foreign policy, international finance, and global governance. Through white papers, journals, task forces, and quiet placement of its members into successive presidential administrations, the CFR normalized the erosion of national sovereignty in favor of "international cooperation," "rules-based order," and "global responsibility."

The relationship between these institutions is not coincidental, but complementary. Fabian Socialism supplied the long-range blueprint: gradualism, elite management, and the subordination of democratic resistance through expertise. The Council on Foreign Relations operationalized that blueprint in the American context, translating theory into policy while remaining safely insulated from electoral accountability.

Elections, meanwhile, supplied the illusion of control. Voters were permitted to choose between candidates, but never between systems. Administrations changed; direction did not. Policy debates were constrained within boundaries set by the same overlapping networks of experts, institutions, and international commitments. The result was governance by consensus among elites, punctuated by elections that altered personnel but not trajectory.

This is Fabianism perfected — not revolution by force, but management by consent; not tyranny imposed, but dependency cultivated. The strategy was conceived in London. The vehicle was built in New York and Washington. And the road has led steadily, predictably, toward world government administered by unelected planners and justified by perpetual crises.

The Respectable Revolutionaries

One of *Fabian Freeway's* most damning — and most carefully documented — revelations is the role of intellectual elites in laundering socialism into American public life. Fabian Socialism did not announce itself as "socialism." It was rebranded.

In Britain, it marched under the banner of Labour. In America, it cloaked itself in the far-more palatable garb of "liberalism," "progressivism," and "reform." The word "socialism" was downplayed or denied altogether, not because the goal had changed, but because the audience had to be managed. Americans, suspicious of overt collectivism, were far more amenable to policies marketed as compassionate, scientific, or inevitable.

Martin names names carefully, relentlessly, and with citations. She documents overlapping memberships between Fabian-inspired organizations and influential American institutions such as the League for Industrial Democracy, Americans for Democratic Action, and the American Civil Liberties Union. These organizations did not operate in isolation. They functioned as interlocking components of a coordinated ideological ecosystem, reinforcing one another across academia, media, law, and government.

Most devastating of all, Martin dismantles the comforting myth that socialism and communism are mortal enemies. In reality, she demonstrates, they function as complementary forces, differing not in destination but in method and tempo. Fabian Socialism prepares the ground. Communism exploits the conditions thus created.

Her military analogy is precise and sobering: Communists are the infantry; socialists are the artillery. The former advances only after the latter has softened resistance, undermined tradition, discredited constitutional limits, and habituated the public to centralized control. This is not conjecture. It is historical pattern.

The U.S. Constitution as an Obstacle

What makes *Fabian Freeway* especially relevant to American readers — and especially intolerable to the modern political class — is its insistence that the U.S. Constitution was not merely ignored by Fabian reformers, but deliberately undermined.

Separation of powers, federalism, enumerated authority, and limited government were not viewed as outdated technicalities. They were seen for what they truly were: structural barriers to collectivist ambition.

Unable to nationalize industry or reorganize society through Congress alone, Fabian-minded reformers turned instead to executive agencies, judicial reinterpretation, and the steady expansion of administrative power. The rise of the regulatory state was not accidental. It was instrumental. Bureaucracy offered permanence without accountability, authority without elections, and power without visibility.

Martin shows how socialism advanced not by persuading Americans to abandon the Constitution outright, but by redefining it out of existence. Fixed meaning gave way to "living" interpretations. Limits became suggestions. Restraints became inconveniences. Any policy, no matter how sweeping, could be justified so long as it was labeled humane, modern, or inevitable.

FABIAN FREEWAY
High Road To Socialism in The U.S.A.
1884 - 1965
by Rose L. Martin
1965 Foreword by Lloyd Wright
2025 Foreword by Joe Wolverton, II, J.D.

In this way, constitutional government was hollowed out from within — not overthrown, but repurposed.

A Book for Our Moment

Critics might scoff that *Fabian Freeway* is dated. The opposite is true. Its prescience is chilling. The book reads less like a history and more like a diagnostic manual for the modern American state.

Regional governance schemes that bypass local control; unelected planners wielding immense authority; internationalist entanglements that erode national sovereignty under the guise of cooperation; the managed decline of self-government in favor of technocratic administration: These were not accidents of the 21st century; they were predicted.

Martin warned that the danger was not creeping socialism, but onrushing socialism, accelerated by a public anesthetized by prosperity and distracted by slogans. Substitute today's buzzwords — equity, sustainability, stakeholders, experts — or yesterday's, and the pattern remains unmistakable. The language changes. The objective does not.

Why This Book Terrifies the Establishment

Fabian Freeway is feared by the global elites not because it incites violence or hatred, but because it arms the reader with understanding. It strips away euphemism. It denies plausible deniability. It exposes strategy behind policy and intent behind reform.

It reminds Americans of a truth too often forgotten: Liberty is not usually stolen in a single night. It is surrendered in increments, each one defended as reasonable, compassionate, or necessary — until the sum of concessions leaves nothing worth defending.

This is why the book has been never answered, only dismissed. You cannot refute what is documented. You can only hope it is forgotten.

A Call to Action

Books like *Fabian Freeway* are not written merely to be admired. They are written to be used.

Rose L. Martin did not assemble her evidence so Americans could nod gravely and return to their routines. She wrote to warn, and warnings impose obligations. That is why *Fabian Freeway* has been brought back into print *exclusively* by Western Islands Publishing at precisely the moment its lessons are no longer academic, but existential.

Readers should go today to WesternIslandsPublishing.com and obtain a copy of this re-issued classic. This new edition includes an updated Foreword by yours truly, wherein my commentary situates Martin's findings in today's accelerating technocratic and globalist environment.

Read it. Mark it. Share it. Place it into the hands of those who still believe our present crisis is accidental or temporary.

But reading alone is not enough. The Fabian strategy thrives on apathy, fragmentation, and the illusion that someone else will resist the advance of collectivism. That illusion must be shattered. Organized, informed, principled resistance is the only force that has ever stopped socialism's slow march.

That is why Americans who recognize the danger *must also join The John Birch Society*. For decades, the Society has warned — correctly and consistently — about the very tactics Rose L. Martin documented. While others mocked, it studied. While others compromised, it educated. While others drifted down the Fabian Freeway, it stood athwart it, pointing to the exits.

Membership is not symbolic. It is a declaration of responsibility. The freeway has been built. The traffic is heavy. The destination is unmistakable. The warning has been issued. The map has been drawn. The only remaining question is whether Americans will finally get off the road — together — before it is too late.

To order *Fabian Freeway: High Road to Socialism in the U.S.A.*, see page 67. ■

WOLVERTON'S WARNING

NO LIES GO UNCHALLENGED. NO TYRANT GOES UNNAMED.

Joe Wolverton II, J.D. is The John Birch Society's constitutional law scholar

CONSTITUTIONAL REFLECTIONS ON THE USE OF FORCE IN VENEZUELA

by Joe Wolverton II, J.D.

Periods of international crisis test not only the resolve of nations, but their commitment to constitutional restraint. President Donald Trump's authorization of a military operation that resulted in the detention of Venezuela's head of state, Nicolás Maduro, and a temporary assertion of American authority within Venezuelan territory raises important constitutional, legal, and moral questions worthy of careful consideration.

Americans of good faith may differ sharply in their assessment of the Maduro government and Venezuela's prolonged political and economic turmoil. Those disagreements, however, do not diminish the responsibility of the United States to act in accordance with its constitutional framework and the principles of law that have long guided the Republic's conduct abroad.

The Constitution assigns to Congress the authority to initiate war to Congress. Article I expressly grants the legislative branch the power to declare war and to authorize the use of military force against foreign nations. This allocation reflects the framers' deliberate judgment that decisions of war and peace should not rest in the hands of a single executive, but instead require collective deliberation and public accountability.

The operation in Venezuela involved U.S. forces entering a foreign capital, engaging security personnel, and forcibly removing the nation's chief executive. Such actions fall squarely within the traditional understanding of military force. Yet no declaration of war was issued, nor was there a specific authorization from Congress for this operation.

While the administration has pointed to narcotics enforcement and regional security concerns, the scale and character of the action extend well beyond what has historically been understood as routine law enforcement. Constitutional boundaries remain meaningful precisely in moments when expedience tempts their erosion.

Venezuela's internal collapse, humanitarian distress, and political repression are widely acknowledged. Recognizing those conditions, however, does not negate the principle of national sovereignty that underlies international order. Established legal norms hold that states may not enforce their domestic laws within another nation's territory without consent or a recognized legal basis.

Actions that result in the removal of a foreign head of state and assertions of transitional authority inevitably raise concerns about the proper limits of power. Even when undertaken with stated humanitarian or security objectives, such measures demand clear legal justification to avoid weakening the broader rule of law.

The Constitution provides no authority for the United States to administer foreign nations or manage their political transitions. American influence abroad has traditionally rested on diplomacy, persuasion, and example rather than direct control.

Doctrines often cited to justify regional engagement were defensive in origin and were not intended to authorize regime management by force. A republic founded on self-government must exercise caution when contemplating actions that substitute military authority for political consent.

The use of force carries unavoidable human consequences. Reports of casualties among Venezuelan and allied security forces, along with the risk of civilian harm, underscore that this operation was neither abstract nor symbolic.

History suggests that military interventions, even those initially described as limited, often produce unintended consequences. Prolonged instability, regional tension, and deeper entanglement have followed similar efforts in the past. Prudence counsels restraint, particularly in regions where strategic resources and competing international interests are present.

The reaction from the international community has been largely critical, with gov-

ernments across political lines expressing concern about the implications for sovereignty and international law. Such responses merit consideration, not because international opinion is determinative, but because legitimacy plays a central role in sustaining a stable global order.

When established legal frameworks are set aside, the norms that restrain conflict are weakened, increasing the likelihood of reciprocal actions by other states.

The framers of the Constitution were acutely aware of the dangers associated with executive-led warmaking. James Madison cautioned that those responsible for conducting war are not well suited to decide when it should begin. For that reason, the authority to initiate hostilities was placed in the legislative branch.

These concerns were not merely theoretical. They were practical safeguards designed to preserve republican government by slowing decisions that carry irreversible consequences.

The operation in Venezuela presents a serious question about the proper balance between executive action and constitutional restraint. Raising these concerns does not excuse repression abroad, nor does it diminish legitimate security interests. It simply affirms that the rule of law must remain central to American decision-making. Those who believe that our military intervention in Venezuela was necessary should ask themselves: Shouldn't Congress have made that decision, not the president?

A constitutional republic depends on transparency, congressional participation, and restraint in the use of military force. These principles are not obstacles to effective leadership; they are its foundation.

The Constitution means what it says. Preserving it requires steady adherence to its limits, especially in moments of uncertainty, urgency, and international strain. ■

THE LAST WORD

Can We Turn Back the Clock?

by Steve Bonta

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Those of us with experience in aging understand that the march of time is relentless. Turning back the clock is a purely figurative notion refuted every day by the brutish reality of graying hair, ebbing strength, death, decay, and change.

Why, then, are we so eager to recapture past glories? Why uphold the nostalgic banners of the past as standards for the present and the future? In particular, why would anyone want to undo the blessings of progress that we now enjoy?

As someone born in the 1960s, and who can recollect a world without PCs, smartphones, the internet, dental implants, and many of the miracles of modern medicine, I know that neither I nor anyone of my generation would want to inhabit a world without these things. And the world my parents and grandparents grew up in was more backward still. In the West, at least, we have managed to overcome much of the Hobbesian nastiness and brutishness of the human existence, and no one of sound mind would want to turn back the clock on technology.

Unfortunately, though, many of the virtues that made our nation great in those bygone days seem to be disappearing alongside smallpox and polio. There is nothing illusory about the dwindling work ethic, shattered family values, rampant moral decline, and surge in vulgarity and apathy enabled by the same technology that has brought us the comforts, conveniences, and personal empowerment that characterize the modern age.

One of the starkest contrasts between the America of yesteryear and the one of today is widespread contempt for the rule of law. Today's lawlessness, on display in the seething streets of Minneapolis, Chicago, and most of our "blue" cities, is a consequence of decades of deliberate non-enforcement of laws whenever the agenda of the radical Left requires appeasement. Most of the miscreants being rounded up in Minnesota have convictions for serious crimes, and many are subject to unenforced, decades-old deportation orders. Sometime in the late 20th century, we allowed our magistrates to decide to no longer enforce immigration laws. Incentivizing a large, disruptive, criminal underclass of illegal immigrants, it turns out, is useful for discrediting the American system by pointing to its crime, poverty, and social unrest — which is precisely what the radical Left wants to do. And the more disruptive and flagrantly criminal the immigrant class, the louder keens the radical Left for its protection, as we are seeing with the Somalis in Minnesota.

As a result of the culture of lawlessness, it now appears to many that legitimate law-enforcement functions, such as arresting and deporting criminals or cracking down on urban crime sinks such as Washington, D.C., are symptoms of authoritarianism. Police who respond with any degree of force against people physically attacking them or refusing to obey lawful orders while smugly livestreaming their defiance are denounced as latter-day Gestapo.

Yet not so very long ago, few questioned the authority of law enforcement to enforce lawful orders and to detain people with criminal charges. It is only the ripening of pathological permissiveness that makes President Donald Trump's efforts to bring back blind justice and law enforcement so shocking to so many. Ironically, America was a much freer country when laws were enforced strictly and more or less impartially.

What Trump is trying to do, however imperfectly, is to turn back the clock by restoring a culture of law and order. His assertiveness on foreign policy, meanwhile, is in some respects a throwback to the unapologetic unilateralism of the 19th century. And his reliance on tariffs is reminiscent of fiscal policy before the age of the Federal Reserve and the federal income tax, when a limited federal government could be funded almost entirely by excises on imports. All these are relics of an era when the Constitution was broadly upheld, and when few Americans had any contact with the federal government aside from visits to the post office. This year may see additional throwback drama, with the Supreme Court likely to rule against the long-standing precedent (*Humphrey's Executor*) that gave rise in the 1930s to the illegitimate tangle of tyrannical regulatory agencies that torment, tax, and micromanage Americans.

Turning back the clock on such long-neglected policies is not retrograde but progressive (in the true sense of the word). The restoration of limited government will reinvigorate the Republic for the benefit of generations yet unborn — while preserving the blessings of modern progress. ■

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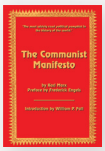

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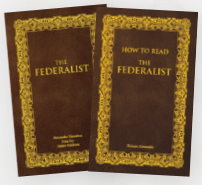

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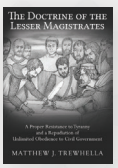

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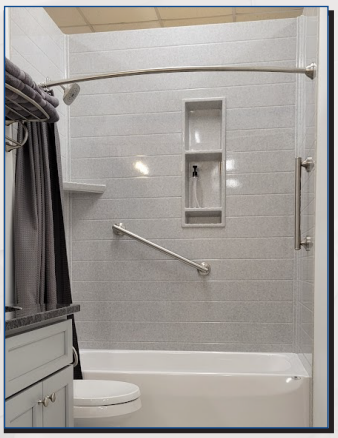

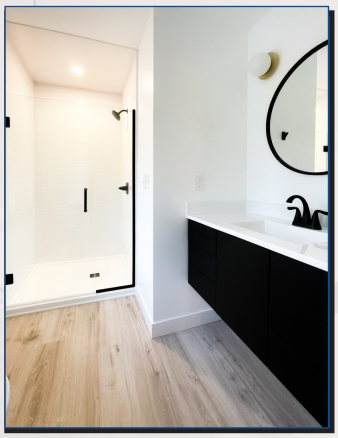

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